

A march to remember
Despite torrential rain, thousands
attend Milk/Moscone commemoration.
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Youth knew, age can
George Roosen reflects
on his extraordinary life.
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Turkey with no dressing
Ferzan Ozpetek's steamy
flick is set in Istanbul baths.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 49 • 3 December 1998

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years

Fundies seek apology from SF supes

by Cynthia Laird

The Washington D.C.-based Family Research Council (FRC) has called for an apology from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors over an October letter written by Supervisor Leslie Katz that stated there was a "direct correlation" between "horrible crimes committed against gays and lesbians," such as the death of Wyoming college student Matthew Shepard, and the "Truth in Love" ad campaign FRC co-sponsored with other anti-gay organizations.

FRC President Gary Bauer demanded the apology in a November 23 reply to the Board of Supervisors.

Katz defended her letter's contents, saying anti-gay speech by right wing groups and politicians leads to a climate of hate that opens the door to horrible crimes. Katz said she is working on a response to Bauer's letter but she will not apologize.

"I will not back off," the openly lesbian supervisor told the *Bay Area Reporter* Tuesday, December 1.

Katz sent her letter to Bauer shortly after Shepard died October 12, after he'd been beaten and left for dead on a fence days earlier. Two men are in custody charged with the crime. "Supervisor Leslie Katz denounces your hateful rhetoric against gays, lesbians, and transgendered people," stated the letter submitted by Katz and signed by Gloria L. Young, clerk of the Board of Supervisors. "What happened to Matthew Shepard is in part due to the message being espoused by your groups that gays and lesbians are not worthy of the most basic equal rights and treatment."

The brief letter concluded, "It is not an exaggeration to say that there is a direct correlation between these acts of discrimination, such as when gays and lesbians are called sinful and when major religious organizations

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Centsational celebration

These kids from the Athenian School proudly sit near bags of pennies they and hundreds of other students and businesses collected for the AIDS Emergency Fund's "Every Penny Counts" campaign that culminated in Union Square on World AIDS Day, Tuesday, December 1.



Jane Philomeni/Cleland

World AIDS Day '98: the good news, the bad news

by Bob Roehr

Every hour, two Americans under the age of 20 become infected with HIV, according to a report from the Kaiser Family Foundation that was released on World AIDS Day, Tuesday, December 1. Every day, 390 people die of AIDS just in the country of South Africa. And in some nations on that continent, a quarter of the population is infected with the virus. That is the

reality of HIV/AIDS.

The good news is that the rate of infection among gay men in four cities — New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco — has fallen 60-70 percent over the last decade. The data was presented at a November meeting of the American Public Health Association. The decline is attributed to safer sex practices and to the death of people who were infected early in the epidemic.

Combination therapy continues to work its magic for a substantial portion of those

who have access to it. But success is not universal and the number of deaths seems to be creeping back up.

Glaxo Wellcome announced the wholesale price of Ziagen (abacavir) at \$3,540 per year. Middlemen in the distribution chain are likely to boost that by a third, while ADAP programs will get a 15 percent rebate. That should allow most states to add the nucleoside analog to their formulary early next year, soon after the Food and Drug Admin-

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Teacher sues Fresno over gay sting

by Mark Norby

The Law Offices of Paul Wotman announced Tuesday, November 24 it has filed a landmark civil rights class action lawsuit against the city of Fresno, due to an undercover operation that allegedly resulted in the wrongful arrest of gay male schoolteacher Gabriel Morales.

According to the complaint, the Fresno Police Department conducts "sting" operations in parks believed to be frequented by gay men. The plainclothes police officers approach men and inquire about engaging in sexual activity. Then, even if the men express no interest in sexual activity with the police officers, the officers allegedly arrest the men for loitering with the intent to solicit a lewd act in public.

The complaint further alleges that police invite television news crews to the scene and report the arrests to the local media.

The Morales case is one of hundreds of complaints against the city of Fresno, and was the incident that triggered the filing of the class action suit by Wotman's office.

Express questioning

Morales was arrested mid-afternoon No-



Gabriel Morales

vember 28, 1997, after he drove his truck to Fresno's Roeding Park to meet up with some friends. He had been suffering cold and flu-like symptoms several days prior, and went

to the park's restroom to blow his nose.

Morales noticed a man standing near the men's room and looking in his direction as he approached. The two made eye contact as Morales entered the men's room.

Morales, who engaged the man in conversation after initially believing he recognized the man, left the men's room after the man said "it was chilly and [that] he was nervous because he did not do 'this' very often," according to the complaint.

After leaving the men's room, the man, later identified as Officer Todd Williams, followed Morales to a picnic area. The two sat on opposite sides of a picnic table and Williams asked Morales if he frequented the bars and clubs in Fresno, mentioning a bar called The Express. Morales told Williams that he didn't go to bars and clubs.

Morales then noticed in the distance an older man staring at the two of them. He remembers fearing that they might be targets of a mugging or assault, and suggested to Williams that they leave the area.

Morales offered to show Williams around the park, but Williams didn't express an interest so Morales stated that he had to get going and went back to his truck.

The older man allegedly pursued Morales

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Demo against United Airlines just in time for holiday travelers

by Cynthia Laird

The holiday travel season is getting busier, and so are gay and lesbian activists angry about United Airlines' ongoing legal opposition to San Francisco's equal benefits law. Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Board of Supervisors President-elect Tom Ammiano, Supervisor Mark Leno, and members of Equal Benefits Advocates (EBA) will lead a demonstration against the airline this Tuesday, December 8 at Harvey Milk Plaza in the Castro. Interested community members are invited to join the protest of United's attempt to overturn the landmark ordinance, which requires companies doing business with the city to offer all benefits to employees' domestic partners that they offer employee spouses.

Although several pickets have been held in front of United's downtown ticket office this year, Tuesday's demonstration will be the first time an organized effort against the airline has taken place in the Castro by EBA, which only formed a few months ago.

EBA co-chair Jeff Sheehy noted while explaining the need for the march that United recently agreed to link lawsuits with Pat

Robertson's American Center for Law and Justice, and it is widely believed that United prompted the Air Transport Association to file suit against the city last year.

Although U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken ruled in the Air Transport Association case in April that airlines with city contracts cannot be required to offer health and pension benefits to their employees' domestic partners, she upheld the bulk of the ordinance. United, which wants a multi-million dollar lease on ground facilities at San Francisco International Airport, then entered the suit in its own name. It is fighting provisions that would force it, as a lessee with the city, to offer other benefits such as travel and bereavement leave to employees' domestic partners.

The next hearing is scheduled for next month in federal court.

Fly your button

Geoff Kors, a member of EBA and one of the people who helped write the original law in conjunction with members of the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club in 1996, said EBA will pass out buttons at the demo to travelers who must fly United, so that they can show the airline that they don't support its

discriminatory policies.

"Holidays bring families together," said Kors. "United should support the families of all of its employees by ending this wasteful lawsuit and granting equal benefits now."

"I know many in our community have to fly United Airlines this holiday season," Migden stated. "However, we must send a clear message that the unholy alliance of the religious right and United Airlines is unacceptable."

Added Ammiano, "The hierarchy of United Airlines continues to work against its own employees as well as the flying public. This is hardly a recipe for success."

Said Leno, "Especially at this time when we are subjected to continual scapegoating, our community must take a firm stand in defense of our families, our relationships, and our own self worth."

"Pat Robertson is not my copilot," Sheehy said. "Like Matt Fong, United Airlines must learn that it cannot align itself with fundamentalist hatemongers and still expect the support of the queer community." ▼

The protest starts at 6 p.m. at Harvey Milk Plaza, at Market and Castro streets.

Breast Cancer Action to hold fashion benefit Wed., needs frequent flyer miles

by Cynthia Laird

Gays and lesbians who are boycotting United Airlines because of its attempts to overturn San Francisco's equal benefits ordinance may still find a good use for any accumulated United frequent flyer miles. Breast Cancer Action (BCA) hopes those people will donate the miles so the group can send seven treatment issues activists to Texas this month for the 21st annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium.

United's willingness to spend millions of dollars on a lawsuit to avoid offering domestic partner benefits to its employees has prompted most gays and lesbians searching for alternate carriers [see story above], but BCA could use the miles that nobody else wants. Spokeswoman Holly Anderson told the Bay Area Reporter

she is working with the airline to get on its charity list so frequent flyer miles can be combined. Anderson said BCA also accepts donations of American Airlines frequent flyer miles, but because those miles cannot be combined, only miles for full vouchers can be accepted.

Such is not the case with United, where "anything would help," said Anderson.

BCA also has other, more down-to-earth, ways of enticing people to help fund its work. This Wednesday, December 9, it will host "Couture for the Cure," displaying fashions by five up and coming Bay Area fashion designers while serving cocktails and canapes. The American designers have donated some striking design illustrations, which have been framed and will be for sale with all proceeds going to BCA.

Admission to the San Francisco

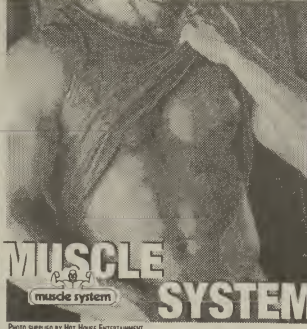
event is free, although donations are greatly appreciated, said Robby Robinson, who's helping organize the event.

"It's going to be beautiful," she added.

Designers Andrea Armour, Robert Berry, George Diao, Kirsty Kelly, and Hester Michael are participating in the live fashion show, where the models have donated their time. Gay philanthropist James Hormel and his partner Timothy Wu are on the host committee for the event.

BCA is dedicated to inspiring and compelling the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. ▼

To donate frequent flyer miles, call (415) 243-9301. The fashion show benefit takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. at Jenn Joy Gallery, 49 Geary Street.



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Very un-PC office at 'PC Week'

Computer publisher Ziff-Davis sued for anti-gay, racist conditions

by Mark Norby

A gay San Francisco resident filed suit Monday, November 30 against his former employer, computer publishing giant Ziff-Davis, alleging sexual orientation discrimination, sexual harassment, wrongful constructive termination, emotional distress, and related charges.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Hussein Hammoud had been employed by Ziff-Davis's New York offices since September 1995 and was promoted and transferred to the company's San Francisco offices in early 1997. There he rose to the position of network manager, responsible for maintaining computer servers and networks, and became a leader in developing the company's MacWorld and cable television station ZDTV projects. Both projects were allegedly pulled from Hammoud by Ziff-Davis in retaliation for complaining to the company's human resources department about his working conditions.

Hammoud alleges that during more than two years of employment with the company, he was subject to disparaging remarks about his sexual orientation and his ancestry. Eventually, after the



Hussein Hammoud

company's human resources department did not address the problem, he complained to the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, and was terminated from the company March 31.

Attorney Tyler Shaw of the Law Offices of Paul Wotman announced the filing, in which Hammoud reports comments from co-workers and superiors including "pretty boy," "bitch," "little faggot," "fudge packer" as well as racial slurs including "camel jockey," "sand nigger," and "little terrorist." The complaint also states that a former colleague

of Hammoud referred to gays as "disease-infected." Co-workers were also reported to have taunted Hammoud by claiming "Arabs make great cab drivers."

Hammoud's immediate supervisor Greg Salzman had, on many occasions, referred to oral sex and allegedly told Hammoud to "blow me." Salzman also left a voice mail message for Hammoud, instructing him to call a telephone number to a gay sex parlor.

The suit alleges violations of the California Labor Code and the Fair Employment and Housing Act, and seeks compensation for wage loss, emotional distress, attorney's fees and punitive damages.

Ziff-Davis, a worldwide publisher of computer periodicals including *PC Magazine*, *PC Computing*, and *PC Week* is further named in the suit for wrongful termination or constructive termination due to the company's failure to take reasonable steps to assure a safe and non-hostile work environment.

Ziff-Davis human resources did not return B.A.R. calls about the lawsuit. A status conference on the lawsuit is scheduled for May 7. ▼



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MCC-SF co-founder Austin Amerine dies

by Cynthia Laird

The Reverend A. Austin Amerine, who traveled with five others from Los Angeles in 1970 to start Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco, died Saturday, November 21 in Bellevue, Washington. He was 76.

Amerine served as an assistant pastor at MCC-SF, where he was also choir director, recalled the Reverend Michael England, senior pastor at MCC of Greater Hayward, who arrived in San Francisco and joined the church in 1972.

Amerine served as the first full-time district coordinator in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) and was the founding pastor of MCC Portland, Emmanuel MCC in Spokane, and Overlake MCC in Bellevue. He was also instrumental in starting MCC congregations in Salem and Roseburg in Oregon and

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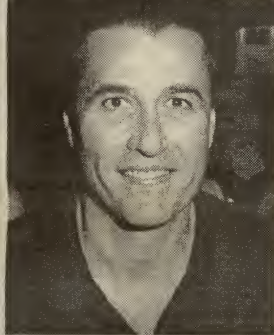
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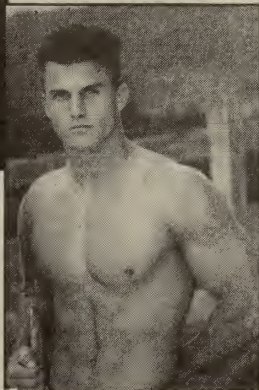
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Photo: Steven Underhill

Gay cop's spirit lives on in Mission toy drive Benefit Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

The spirit of a gay San Francisco policeman who died several years ago lives on in the "Holiday Magic in the Mission" toy drive that kicks off with a benefit this Tuesday, December 8 at Bruno's in the Mission. The late Ray Benson, a highly decorated gay police officer and who was the community relations officer at the Mission station, started the toy drive five years ago. This year, the effort is getting a jump start, thanks in part to several gay businesses that are getting involved as well as more Mission merchants.

In years past, as many as 2,000 children a day would come to the Mission station to see Santa Claus and get a picture with the jolly old elf and a toy, said Ethel Newlin, who worked with Benson on the toy drive and continues to be involved in the effort. The giveaway now takes place in a room at the station named for Benson, said Paul Pendergast, who's handling publicity for the Tuesday benefit. "Last year they gave away nearly 4,000 toys to kids in the Mission," said Pendergast.

He added that the Mission Merchants Association is very involved in the effort this year. The group's president is gay businessman Jose Najjar, who runs the Andorra Inn and serves on the city's Small Business Advisory Com-

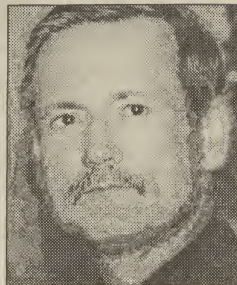
mission. Last year was the first time the merchants' group took part in the event, Najjar said.

"The first one last year was really successful, we collected \$350," Najjar told the *Bay Area Reporter*, referring to participation by the merchants' group. He said the association hopes to raise more money this year and encouraged interested people to come to Tuesday's fundraiser. Since he became president of the merchant association, Najjar said membership has increased from about 30 to over 100 members.

Newlin, who was a close friend of Benson's, told the *B.A.R.* that she has helped keep the toy drive alive. Five years ago, then-Captain Joaquin Santos, who headed the Mission station, approached Benson with the idea, saying a toy drive was needed for the children in the neighborhood. Santos, now a deputy police chief, still comes down to the station for the event, Newlin said.

In an effort to raise more money, this year's benefit is more formal, with only cash donations being accepted. Ticket prices to the event are \$25, \$50, or \$100 per person, Pendergast said. "This year we've turned up the volume to raise additional funds to buy more toys to be given away since the need grows each year."

Production, website creation, graphic design, and publicity have been donated by area gay business



The late Ray Benson

owners, he added.

Benson, who died of complications from AIDS in June 1995, was the only officer to have won the coveted "My Favorite Cop" award twice, in 1985 and 1992. He was awarded the department's Medal of Valor in 1993. Benson was the gay community liaison under former Chief Frank Jordan and fought against the stereotypes of gay men for some 15 years. In addition to helping start the holiday toy drive, Benson founded the Golden State Police Officers Association, which has evolved into a statewide organization for gay and lesbian peace officers. ▼

The benefit takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bruno's, 2389 Mission Street at 20th Street. For more information, check out the website www.missionmagic.com.

Get your sweet bundles of holiday Sachet tonight

by Mark Norby

Empress Donna Sachet is sated but not stuffed by the lavish buffet she helped put on at the Empress' auction November 20, and now she's rippin' out the tablecloth again for *Songs of the Season* Thursday, December 3 (tonight) and Friday, December 4. The event, her signature holiday extravaganza to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF), will feature a variety show and buffet at the Oak Street Ballroom International Center, 50 Oak Street.

Harvey's bar will provide the edibles and the perpetually red hot Sachet will provide the credibles, including the not-so-gruff voices of the San Francisco Bear-ones, Brian Benamati, T.J. Istvan,



Donna Sachet

the Lollipop Guild, Maxine, Charlie Pacheco, Beverly Plaza, Sheba, J. Brian Washman, and Danny Williams. If you want a cocktail or two, just reach into your trousers or bustier and flash a few greenbacks. One hundred percent of

the money goes to the AEF charity, which provides direct cash assistance to people with AIDS and HIV. The fabulous rate of return is made possible through generous sponsors including Paul Scudder and J.V. Alvarado, The Edge, Daddy's, Marlena's and others - a veritable host of hosts.

A word of caution, however, from our favorite scarlet empress: "Red, red is not the only color of the season. Try going with your emotions. You'll look fabulous in green." Alleluia. ▼

Doors open at 7 p.m., showtime's at 8 both nights. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Reserve by calling Ms. Sachet's 24-hour red-rotary hotline at (415) 695-1942.

Court refuses Boy Scouts case

United Press International

The Supreme Court has refused to review the case of Charles Merino, a Southern California police officer who contended he was prevented from organizing a Boy Scout Explorer post at his department because the Boys Scouts believed he was a homosexual.

Merino lost in the California

courts, and had asked for the U.S. Supreme Court to review whether he was denied equal protection under the Constitution.

The justices denied review Monday, November 30 without comment. The case has no national legal significance.

The San Diego County Council of the Boy Scouts of America argued in a brief that the Supreme Court should not re-

view Merino's case. The brief said that Merino cited state law in his lawsuit in the lower courts, and only raised the issue of constitutional protection in asking the Supreme Court for review.

The Supreme Court usually refuses to review issues which have not been raised in the lower courts during the life of a case. A refusal to review by the Supreme Court is not a ruling on the merits of a case. ▼

Hearty holiday dining



It was turkey and all the trimmings for dozens of diners who took advantage of the sumptuous (and free!) Thanksgiving-day dinner at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy in the Castro. Many of those present had earlier attended services at Metropolitan Community Church-S.F. and Most Holy Redeemer.

Castro shop offers service post office won't

by Mark Norby

Castro postal and shipping business P.O. Plus announced this week that it will offer neighborhood residents free pick-up and storage services of medicine, providing the kind of service no longer available at the former post office at 18th and Diamond Streets. As reported in last week's *Bay Area Reporter*, the post office was converted November 9 to a new "Postal Retail Store" that now provides an array of consumer retail items—but no longer provides parcel pick-up and storage services.

Residents of the Castro must now venture an additional 18 blocks to the post office at 15th and Bryant streets to pick up parcels. The service reduction at the station

has upset many residents and has prompted calls for a return to the former, more functional post office. It is particularly inconvenient for neighborhood residents who get AIDS drugs and other medications through the mail.

For those people, P.O. Plus manager Paul Moffett told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "The staff on Castro Street is proud to be able to step in and provide this service until the U.S. Postal Service solves their parcel storage problem."

"As a community service," continued Moffett, "P.O. Plus will pick up medications for free." The usual fee is \$2 per parcel, plus a \$2 storage charge after the first day.

"All they [residents within the affected zip codes] need to do is bring the yellow post office slip to us and sign it over to P.O. Plus for

pick-up. The next morning we'll get their meds and they'll be ready for pick-up at our store by noon," said Moffett.

Customers may also use P.O. Plus for Federal Express, United Parcel Service, and other delivery services by making prior arrangements for parcel delivery to the store at 584 Castro Street. Moffett said the staff of P.O. Plus hopes this solution will "make things easier and be a benefit to our community. We are happy to be in a position to help out."

Those concerned with this issue may write to the San Francisco Postmaster, San Francisco, CA 94188-9998.

P.O. Plus may be contacted by calling (415) 864-5888.

Pets get picture perfect fundraising opportunity for PAWS this Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

Canines, kitties, and other furry friends will join the holiday fun when they have their photo snapped with Santa Claus in Ghirardelli Square, and owners can buy raffle tickets to win their pet's weight in Ghirardelli chocolate, during the holiday benefit for Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) this Sunday, December 6.

The event will be held from 1 to 4 p.m., rain or shine, at the west plaza of Ghirardelli Square, 900 North Point, between Polk and Larkin streets. Pet owners

can take home a photo of their pet with "Santa PAWS," as the agency calls him, in a snowflake tree ornament or a traditional 5-inch by 7-inch shot. Photos cost \$10 each. Discounted parking is available in the Ghirardelli Square garage.

Sponsored by Beastro By The Bay, Ghirardelli Square, and Ghirardelli Chocolate Company, money raised will help PAWS provide services to people living with AIDS to enable its clients to keep their animal companions. PAWS offers a pet food bank, subsidized veterinary care, dog walking, and other services.

PAWS Executive Director Erin

Farrell recounted some of the agency's successes this past year in the recent newsletter, including publication of new education guidelines. *Safe Pet Guidelines*, *Your Cat and Your Health*, and *Your Bird and Your Health* all include valuable information for any pet owner with a compromised immune system.

Copies of PAWS guidelines can be obtained by calling the PAWS office at (415) 241-1460. For more information about Sunday's event, call Beastro By The Bay at (415) 346-1010.

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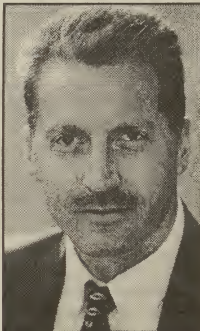
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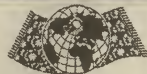


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BAY AREA REPORTER

Volume 28, Number 49
3 December 1998

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Bay Area Reporter

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OPEN FORUM

Time to apologize?

All rapes are terrible. Nobody would suggest that any true rape is less than awful (except, probably, rapists), but it may be said that some are *more* awful. One way assailants can make a rape especially stomach-churning is to force the victims to respond with feigned pleasure or participate in rituals. Many of the more sadistic rapists demand their prey kiss them and call them adoring names, even as the perpetrators violate them and plan to kill them. Others derive a sense of power from the terror they create, and only want to hear their victims beg for mercy. Both kinds of behavior are, when non-consensual, bestial.

And that is exactly the kind of behavior to which Gary Bauer's Family Research Council (FRC) stooped this week, when it demanded the San Francisco Board of Supervisors apologize for fighting back against FRC's vicious attacks on the gay community. In case you missed the story on page one, Bauer and FRC say they are outraged by any suggestion that their hate speech leads to hate crimes, and have fired off a letter denouncing our city leaders for believing otherwise. The letter to the supes quotes a few words from the anti-gay ads FRC sponsors—"every human being is precious to God and is entitled to respect"—as some sort of (to use a phrase increasingly heard in America these days) exculpatory evidence, as if including that phrase made up for years of trying to exclude us from legal protections.

Make no mistake about it; FRC knows that including the phrase would not lead anyone to soften their stance against gay people. If it had, FRC would have removed it from the ads. The groups were not shelling out \$20,000 a page to make anyone like us more. They were doing it to make people fear us, mistrust us, and hate us. And when people hate, they do hateful things, like killing Matthew Shepard.

That is what Supervisor Leslie Katz pointed out to FRC. And that is what has prompted Bauer to send the letter to the supes (and press releases to the far corners of this globe) demanding an apology. And that's what's prompted us to think about those stories rape survivors tell, about the men who systematically tormented them but made them "show respect."

Which is why we hope the supes take FRC up on its offer of a meeting. An open meeting, with the citizens of San Francisco who can

explain why the organization and its buddies make us feel like rape victims. How they systematically torment us with their pronouncements that we don't deserve the same basic rights as everyone else. That we know the correlation between one person saying we aren't worth protection, and another person hearing we are worthless. And that too many of us know first-hand that when we are perceived as worthless, we get beaten and killed.

Is an apology in order? Certainly. But from us to them? Get real. ▼

Editorial

Gary Bauer's

latest antics...

...lead us to wonder what he'd have been like at another time

Safe on the streets ...
and between the sheets

by David Ortmann

Some time has passed since the murder of Matthew Shepard. Our community, which organized quickly and effectively in response to the news of this heinous crime has, in some circles, returned to business-as-usual. I, too, find myself longing to forget—to return to my life of school, friends, and career. I want to put some distance between the reality of Matthew's murder and my own life. Perhaps this is my way of trying to convince myself that it couldn't happen to me—here in the supposed safety of fair San Francisco.

Almost as an ongoing wake-up call, my business-as-usual routine has been continually interrupted by news of more hate violence. My aunt from New Jersey sent me a news article detailing the bludgeoning of my favorite seashore drag performer. She was left to die under the boardwalk in Wildwood New Jersey, lending pathetic irony to the Bette Midler boardwalk song she used to lip synch with such pride and expertise during the many summers I stood to cheer for her.

That evening a friend and colleague was sexually assaulted in a San Francisco State University bathroom. Hers was the seventh sexual attack on a woman at SFSU this year.

Yesterday I received word that yet another friend had succumbed to AIDS-related cancer. He'd been sick on and off for the past two years. I had been meaning to call him for months and didn't get around to it. It's too late now.

The more I think about these events, the more I see the connections between different forms of violence and oppression. They are the same voices, preaching hate at rainy Wyoming funeral, that continue to discriminate against and objectify women as second-class sexualized objects. How can we be surprised, then, that women are being at-

tacked in San Francisco restrooms and drag queens lay dying next to old Coors cans beneath seedy boardwalks? Sadly, I would be surprised if this were *not* happening. These forms of violence seem to be the logical response to a system and society that supports the objectification and marginalization of women and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons.

Although I am aware of this web of interlocking oppressions, I still sometimes catch myself getting caught up in what I've come to call the oppression game. How often do we minimize the violence and oppression experienced by other communities because we view our own oppressive experiences as more relevant? How often do we talk about violence in other communities as not being about us? Never was this represented more clearly than during a rally for the late Matthew Shepard. As a speaker was discussing anti-Semitic violence and its connection to all hate crimes, a rally participant shouted for her to shut up because anti-Semitic violence had nothing to do with the death of Matthew Shepard. In other words, "My oppression is better than yours and yours has nothing to do with mine!" But doesn't it?

Despite our best intentions, or hours of psychotherapy, the messages women and people in the queer community hear are always internalized on some level. How does this internalized oppression translate into behavior? With these messages of hate playing through my consciousness, am I more apt to walk home through that dark neighborhood alone? Will I be less apt to defend myself from danger? Will I be more apt to engage in unsafe sex? In the dark corners of my mind, do those messages tell me that as a gay man I deserve violence, disease, and death? Dr. Gregory Herek from the Univer-

sity of California at Davis, in his analysis of the relationship between internalized homophobia in HIV infection, offers an unequivocal yes. Furthermore, Herek says that, not only does HIV infection complicate interpersonal relationships, but also people with HIV are also more vulnerable to discrimination and hate violence.

Identifying the connections between hate violence, internalized homophobia, and HIV prevention requires a redefinition of how we think about these three concepts. It requires a community coming together to confront hate violence on each of these levels simultaneously. It requires strategies for confronting the attacker within as well as the attacker without. Perhaps now more than ever, our community needs a forum to discuss these topics and strategize for a proactive confrontation of hate-violence and HIV.

Bam! Pow! Crunch! is a one-time self-defense training and community discussion about hate violence and HIV prevention for gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual folk of all ages. It is sponsored by the Stop AIDS Project in conjunction with Community United Against Violence (CUAV). The forum will take place this Saturday, December 5 at 2 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th Street at Collingwood in San Francisco.

So join us for an afternoon of laughs, food, and community discussion. Dress comfortably for the self-defense training portion of the afternoon, and come prepared for more fun than you ever had in gym class. ▼

The author is a writer, student, and community organizing intern at the Stop AIDS Project.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

What's in a slogan?

Our 1999 LGBT "Pride" slogan(s) seem "prideful" and/or "proud of our past queerstory, three decades since Stonewall. [*Let's party like it's Pride 1999*," November 19.]

Forgetting can be easy. Just eight years afterwards, Rolling Stone Press birthed a fat photo album, *The Sixties*, in which they honored the death of Judy Garland (June 22, 1969) yet ignored what some of her fans did a few days later.

We remember the name of this seminal event. Even though many of us forget, or never understood, its revolutionary call for queer and human "liberation," and for all freedoms of non-violent speech, cultural expression, spiritual exploration, and even (don't tell our sponsors) wild, boundary-crossing, mind-expanding, erotic and aphroditic play. All that passé human stuff, since replaced by the All-American Duty To Shop.

Is "freedom," the subversive seventies' F-word, now too bold for the Nice-Not-Naughty Narrow-Niche-NIMBY No-Nipple-Nineties? Shall we instead take "pride" in deep shallowness — consumerism, conformism, corporatism? Shall we banish the female areola, unless bandaged like a sick thing, from our Prude Parades? Shall we preserve just the facade of the old Stonewall, like the Emporium, while erasing its guts?

If so, let's pick an up-front slogan: "*Proud to market for The System*."

Tortuga BI Liberty
April Love
Anita Jean Miller
Pat Firby
Senior Unlimited Nudes
San Francisco

Traffic snarl

A week before the elections Mabel Brown and Willie Brown gave amnesty to those with traffic citations in an effort to gain votes for Mabel Teng. They forgot to mention that they were going to be changing the rules of Project 20.

Project 20 helps those unable to pay for parking citations by doing community service work with nonprofit organizations. Many nonprofit organizations, such as the Names Project, depend on volunteers from this service to run their daily operations.

The political move that these two politicians made did not gain them any votes, but at the same time it will hurt San Francisco nonprofit organizations.

Jose Garcia
San Francisco

Who could have a problem with Michael?

Regarding the recent story about ACT UP/San Francisco [*"ACT UP/SF defector denies charges," November 26*]: If, in a headline, you call one person a thief, why use a photo of someone else? This seems highly unprofessional, as if someone at the B.A.R. has a personal problem with ACT UP/SF or Michael Bellefountain.

Since the ACT UP/SF dispensary is one of the few remaining in Northern California, why jeopardize it by running this kind of article?

The people who rely on these dispensaries deserve better treatment.

I simply cannot understand the B.A.R.'s decision to run such a sleazy piece.

Betty Best
San Francisco

Free Mumia

I am a student writing on behalf of the Amnesty International chapter of Mercy High School in San Francisco. I'm writing regarding Mumia Abu-Jamal. I believe he was given an unfair trial, and he should be released from death row.

He should be given a new trial because:

- His lawyer stated that he was not prepared to defend Mumia;
- Mumia was not allowed to defend himself, after his lawyer asked to be excused;
- The bullet that killed the officer did not come from Mumia's gun; and
- The officer who stayed with Mumia gave oral testimony that Mumia was silent, contradicting testimony presented at the trial.

He does not deserve to be put to death because he didn't even get a fair trial. Please spread the word about this man. His time is running out, and we need to make people aware of this case.

Ann Shriver
San Francisco

[Editor's note: The current issue of *The Nation* succinctly states the reasons why the trial has been a travesty from the beginning. We wish Mumia the things we want for all people: safety, protection from persecution, and fairness. And thanks for being so politically active while still in high school. Wouldn't the world be better if there were more students who were that involved?]

Remember Wenger

Thank you very much for running the Tommy Wenger article [*"Polk Street murder victim gone, not forgotten, after four years," November 26*]. It is especially special to see it in the *Harvey Milk* issue.

Gary King
San Francisco

No queers allowed!

I was glad to see your editor's note in the November 19 *Mailstrom* indicating that you will examine your policy about using the word "queer" and reevaluate the practice.

I am aware that there are lesbians and transgender folks who do not like the use of the word "gay." However, I am also aware that most of these folks use the commonly accepted terms such as "gay rights," "gay liberation," and "gay marriage." Since Stonewall we have certainly made America conscious of our existence and our expectations for equal rights. The general public is familiar with these terms.

In recent years a relatively small group of activists has determined that "queer" is a better word than "gay." However, I find that many lesbians, gays and bisexuals resent the use of the word. I am not aware of how well the word is received among transgendered people.

For too many of us, the word "queer" has painful associations, and for a portion of activists to decide to band all with this term is truly disturbing.

I do hope you will consider carefully how this term is used to cover all sexual minorities.

Dick Hewetson
San Francisco

A queer — uh, gay — challenge

I'm a 21-year-old San Francisco voter, student, queer youth activist, poet, and office worker at a local publishing company. Like many, I've been following the issues related to Mayor Brown and the impact that his policies have had on the City and County of San Francisco. The mayor has endured an onslaught of criticism and unrest from San Francisco voters and residents, the local media, and not to mention a pie in the face. To some this might not come as a surprise, but all in all it should come as a wake-up call.

Mayor Brown has done much to influence, carry, and support our great city at the local, state, and national level. However, I've been saddened by his (my perception only) hesitance to return home, to San Francisco, where we need him. I feel like the mayor came out on top in his last election with amazing support from all of our diverse communities, yet he hasn't returned to those communities to show his continued support of them. The mayor has been overwhelmed by outside influences pertaining to the interests of our city on the state, national, and international levels. Though I do not see this as a mistake or fault of his own, I'd seriously encourage the mayor to return to his home base, this city.

What I'm proposing is that the mayor take the peoples' needs seriously and make a return to community instead of always sending a liaison or not showing up at community events he was expected to be at, like the National Coming Out Day celebration in Dolores Park on October 11, 1998. Stop making unrealistic promises and just open his heart to his limits and his hope of all of us continuing to work together for the benefit of San Francisco. Spend more time with the public and have more open hearings.

The Board of Supervisors have been doing more local interaction of late (mainly the hate crime movement) than the mayor. This interaction with the citizens of San Francisco has shown us that our Board of Supervisors are not dependent, but coexisting with the mayor and are supported by the people of this city; that's obvious from all their re-elections.

What I'm saying is that I don't disagree with the mayor, but I wouldn't vote for him at this time because I don't feel like he truly cares about my vote or anyone else's. This isn't a political agenda, these are the hearts and needs of his people. I'm only 21, but I've heard your call as far as needing reliable heart back within our city government. That's why I'm considering running against the mayor next year if his efforts or record doesn't improve. What are my chances? Do I meet the requirements? Will the people like me? These are important questions, but what's more important is the need for unity amongst our communities, the basic needs of the citizens, the commonality of our humanity, and a return to our city. My campaign would be mainly grassroots based and would headline out "Back to the Basics." Again, only if I am able to or need to; if the mayor doesn't respond to our needs.

Seth Watkins
San Francisco

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Jingle all the way



Dozens of Castro denizens, including members of the MCC-SF Choir, braved cold, wind, and drizzle on Sunday, November 29, to light the holiday tree at 18th and Castro and sing traditional carols. The tree was made possible through the efforts of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro.

A strong arm on Polk ...eventually found at porno book store

by Ron McGlashan SFPD
Office of Public Affairs

Sunday, November 29, 9:30 p.m., Post and Sutter: A man who had been standing outside a local bar ran inside and attempted to grab a customer's money off the bar. The customer grabbed the man's arm and attempted to tackle him to the ground, but the would-be thief escaped and fled down Polk Street. One of the customers called the police and plainclothes officers arrived on the scene quickly, but the suspect successfully hid - apparently in a porno book store located between Post and Geary.

Two days after the strong-arm attempt, police arrested the suspect in front of the book store on drug-related charges.

Once again, the SFPD advises that you do not let a person use your business for a place to hide from the police. Rest assured that there will be heavy police presence in this area now that the SFPD has declared this area a "Zero Tolerance Zone."

As this column has already noted, the best way to safeguard your store and customers is to post 25MPC No Trespassing forms. It really works. If you don't have these signs posted, you are subjecting yourself to problems at your door step. Before you say that you do not want to upset the people who hang out in your doorway, ask yourself: do they help your business or hurt it? If you need the appropriate paperwork, call the number at the bottom of the column and I will post it myself.

**DUI suspect
goes for blood**

Thursday, November 26, 10:30 p.m., Polk and Post: Officers

stopped a driver who seemed intoxicated and belligerent. After refusing to cooperate with the investigating officers to take a breathalyzer test, he was taken to the San Francisco General Hospital to have blood drawn. This time-consuming nonsense took the officers off the street for the better part of the night, and compounded the problems of the driver both at the scene of the incident and in court. In the event that you get caught in a situation like this, it is best to cooperate and roll with the tide. This is the time of the year when we need the manpower on the street.



**Polk area auto
thefts increase**

Saturday, November 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: Two cars

were stolen from a secured parking area in the Polk Street area in one hour. One of the victims on November 28 was a medical student. This could have been avoided. If you park in a garage that is only accessible to tenants of your building, make sure you watch the gate until it is closed. Thieves love to wait for cars to enter the garage and follow the vehicle through the gate.

Asks for help, gets beaten

Sunday, November 29, 11:00 p.m., Turk and Golden Gate: A man looking for extra change approached a younger man who ignored him. Seconds later, according to the victim, the panhandler knocked him to the sidewalk and began beating him. The victim scrambled to his feet and ran into a nearby store for help. The store owner reached behind the counter and hit the victim across the side of the head with a board. The police arrived on the scene and took a report and description of the suspect. The victim refused medical help, and because he would not cooperate with the police, all they could do was look for

the suspect. No suspect was found. Because there were no eyewitnesses and because of the victim's behavior, police had no grounds to cite the store owner, who claimed he was defending himself.

Bus accident update

The blind man who was hit by a tourist bus at the intersection of Larkin and Ellis is recovering nicely, but it seems the whole thing may have been avoidable. No one had offered to help the man cross the street where, as this column reported last week, the streetlight was not working properly. There are a number of people in our neighborhood who have suffered HIV-related vision loss. In days gone by, it was common courtesy to assist those who needed help crossing the street. It would be a terrible thing for that courtesy to become a thing of the past. Take a moment to help, and maybe prevent injury and death.

Holiday time in the Castro

If you go to the Castro to do your holiday shopping this time of year, remember that the parking situation gets more difficult every day. Make sure that you park in an area where you won't get cited. Keep an eye on the meters, and don't leave anything in your vehicle that would be a target for area thieves. Stereos and bikes are in big demand, so secure everything.

Castro Street still has ongoing panhandling, and in some cases the panhandlers are aggressive. Do not respond to aggression by physical force. Instead, flag down the beat officer and have these people removed from the area.

Until next week, be safe. ▼

This column is brought to you as a public service by the SFPD Office of Public Affairs, (415) 553-1651. For questions or comments contact Ron McGlashan at (415) 776-9399, or pager (415) 201-6004.

Another suspect arrested at porn book store

United Press International

San Mateo County Sheriff's deputies say they arrested a suspected bank robber after he lost consciousness at a viewing booth in a Redwood City pornographic book store.

Deputies say they were called out to the store in the early morning hours of Sunday, November 29 after 52-year-old transient Gordon Brubaker passed out.

Upon investigation, deputies discovered Brubaker has a history of previous arrests, and that he

was wanted for the November 19 robbery of a Bank of America in San Jose.

According to San Mateo County authorities, crack cocaine was found in Brubaker's pockets, and he later said he passed out because he'd smoked a large amount of the cocaine. ▼

POLITICS

Politics is women's work

by Wayne Friday

While women held their own in the U.S. Senate and gained two seats in the House of Representatives in last month's elections, it was at the state level that produced the most dramatic results of female candidates gaining power at the ballot box.

The new 106th Congress that takes office in January will find a record 56 distaff House members (a gain of two) while the number of women U.S. senators remains at nine (six Democrats, three Republicans); the same as before the November 3 election. In the Senate, a loss by Illinois Democrat **Carol Mosley-Braun** was offset by former Congresswoman **Blanche Lincoln**'s (D) victory in Arkansas.

The number of women governors, incidentally, stays at three after re-election victories by GOP Governor **Jane Hull** of Arizona and Democratic Governor **Jeanne Shaheen** of New Hampshire. (Republican Governor **Christine Whitman** of New Jersey was not up.) Nationally, women state level executives, including governors, will rise to 91 — a new record. In Arizona, not only did the incumbent Hull win re-election, but women also staged a virtual statewide takeover, winning all top five state constitutional offices.

In nearly all cases where women candidates won Senate, House, and gubernatorial offices, the national parties heavily backed the successful candidates financially. By contrast, in two cases where women nominees lost in the state of Washington — U.S. senate candidate **Linda Smith**, a maverick Republican who had often bucked her party on issues such as campaign finance reform, and Democrat **Grethe Cammermeyer**, a lesbian candidate for a

and 30 percent in Oregon.

As with the rest of the country, most women legislators in California are Democrats, two of the more powerful being lesbian Democratic powerhouses **Carole Migden** of San Francisco and **Sheila Kuehl** of Los Angeles. There is obviously some way to go before we see true parity among the sexes in the Legislature, but the increased presence of women in Sacramento's lawmaking body shows progress — and with California Governor-elect **Gray Davis** taking office in January as the first Democratic governor in 16 years, and with Democrats controlling both houses of the state Legislature, these women lawmakers can be expected to bring attention to important legislation that has been ignored for too long under Republican governors who have often been hostile to certain kinds of badly-needed and often-ignored legislation.

(Not all victorious women were Democrats, of course: last month's elections brought two county sheriffs to the state for the first time ever — **Laurie Smith** of Santa Clara County and **Virginia Black** of Yuba County, both Republicans.)

Politics and people

While most members of the House of Representatives (particularly the GOP members) seem eager to see Speaker Newt Gingrich leave (Democrats aren't so pleased, since they lose their main political target) some members of both parties, including our own Representative **Nancy Pelosi**, are offering words of praise for the incoming speaker, Representative **Robert Livingston**. However, one of my favorite reporters, **Marc Sandalow** of the *Chron's* Washington bureau, destroyed the notion that Livingston is a "moderate," pointing out that the Louisiana Republican is against abortion, affirmative action, needle exchanges, gay marriages, and allowing gay couples to adopt in the District of Columbia — and this year voted to withhold millions of dollars from San Francisco because of the city's domestic partners law.

California Secretary of State **Bill Jones**, the only Republican to win a statewide constitutional office last month, is trying to come up with a solution to undo California's messy open primary law. Jones is urging both the Democratic National Committee and the Republican National Committee to change their rules to seat presidential delegates selected from California based on the "open primary" results, but both the RNC and the DNC are unlikely to allow cross-party voting for the state's next presidential primary. According to CALPEEK, Jones's solution would allow the 58 county registrars to code their ballots and have two counts: an open presidential primary count and then a separate count for president by political party. Under this plan, separate ballots would be given to voters, based on party affiliation. However, Jones's plan would have to be approved by the Legislature and while the counties have the ability to modify their election equipment to handle this plan, there would be a sizable cost involved and that, too, would have to be picked up by the state. Con-

fused? So are we, but unless this problem is solved by the state's March 7, 2000 primary, the presidential primary will be all but meaningless.

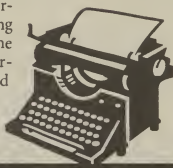
The next interesting Bay Area election will be the one in late February or early March to fill the Assembly seat in the East Bay that was created by the resignation of state Senator-elect **Don Perata** (16th A.D., Oakland). Oakland mayor **Elihu Harris** will battle former Alameda Demo chair **Frank Russo** for this one, and Harris's dismal record on bringing the Oakland Raiders back to his city might prove to be his political albatross. Harris already has the endorsements of San Francisco Mayor **Willie Brown** (who is having political problems of his own these days), U.S. Representative **Barbara Lee**, and Alameda's popular Supervisor **Keith Carson**; Russo has the early backing of Lieutenant Governor-elect **Cruz Bustamante**, Marin Representative **Lynn Woolsey**, Assemblymembers **Kevin Shelley**, **Virginia Strom-Martin**, and **Liz Figueroa**, as well as former East Bay Assemblyman **Tom Bates**. This could get nasty very soon.

Friends and supporters of District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** are holding a cocktail/dinner party this Tuesday, December 8 at the Dalla Torre Ristorante, 1349 Montgomery Street, to celebrate the top prosecutor's birthday and re-election kickoff (\$250; 6:30 cocktails, 7:30 dinner — call Natalia Minassian at (415) 551-2252 for tix and info).

The following Tuesday, December 15, will mark the birthday and re-election kickoff party for Sheriff **Michael Hennessey** at the Black Cat Restaurant, 501 Broadway (6-8 p.m.; (415) 928-2992 for info).

Finally, in response to the reader who correctly took me on in the letters to the editor last week for predicting that President **Bill Clinton** would be gone within six months: you're right, and I'm wrong. The "Comeback Kid" apparently has made yet another amazing comeback; I mean, this guy makes Ronald Reagan's "Teflon" presidency look like kid's work. I agree with the writer that Clinton is "gay-friendly" — although I'm not sure that would satisfy the gays and lesbians being drummed out of the military daily. And as for him being a "disaster" for the Democratic party: the Republicans have gained both houses of Congress and 14 governors since Clinton became president — need I say more? Of course the writer was right when it came to the recent election, but I think that it was in large part a reflection of the voters having too much of **Ken Starr**, **Monica Lewinsky**, and the Republican party's bad call on making Monicagate the issue. As for myself, I could care less if Clinton wants to get some head in the Oval Office behind his wife's back, but I've got to tell you that lying to the entire country about it and perjuring himself under oath is a bit low for the president of the United States. Was I wrong about Clinton's ability to survive? Indeed I was, and except for having a mouthful of "crow feathers" (as my cutesy editor put it) I would hum you a new tune.

And how was your week? ▼



Our Man Friday



Grethe Cammermeyer

House seat — neither of the women received any notable help from their respective national party organizations and both lost. As with male candidates for public office, money (or, in particular, money from their national party organizations) is apparently still the "mother's milk" of a successful campaign.

In California, the new Legislature will include 10 women members in the 40-member state Senate, while the 80-member Assembly will have 20 female members. This 25 percent figure in the new Legislature marks the first time that California exceeds the national average for women legislators, which is 22 percent. However, California still ranks behind most other western states in this category: 41 percent of the state legislators in Washington state are women, for example; the figures are 36 percent in Arizona and Nevada, 33 percent in Colorado,

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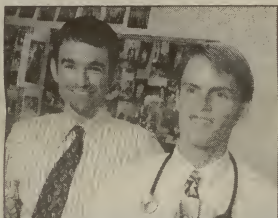
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TG Issues: Lost on the Washington Post?

by Liz Tracey, GLAAD publications manager

A November 11 article by *Washington Post* reporter Peter Slevin did more harm than good, as the coverage of a wrongful death suit became a prime example of how far the media still has to travel to report fairly and accurately on transgender issues. In August 1995, Tyra Hunter, a transgender woman, was seriously injured in a car crash. When emergency medical technician (EMT) Adrian Williams arrived on the scene, he allegedly stopped treating Hunter for five to seven minutes, and made derogatory comments, after finding her male genitals. Hunter's mother is suing Williams and the hospital at which Hunter later died for wrongful death, and is seeking \$10 million in damages.

Reporter Peter Slevin continually refers to Hunter as "a man who dressed as a woman" and "a cross-dresser," and uses male pronouns throughout. This blatantly disrespects Hunter, and her life as she had lived it. In addition, the story is written with an eye towards the sensational, with descriptions such as "The paramedic recoiled in surprise at seeing that Hunter was really a man..." and "He [Hunter] won trophies for his 'hair creations.'" Perhaps most disturbingly, Slevin writes the following account of the court session:

"Three transgender activists—men who live and dress as women, as Hunter did—attended yesterday's court session. They were present in their makeup and their finery, they said, to support Hunter's mother and to increase respect for people who cross genders."

First Slevin correctly refers to the activists as transgender, then negates that by referring to them as male. The next line is simply offensive: the relevance of their "makeup" and "finery" to the case is nil. Additionally, for women to dress up when attending court is nothing new, let alone newsworthy. The rest of the story summarizes the case against the EMT and the hospital in a straightforward factual accounting. It's unfortunate that Slevin writes the facts long after he has shown his ignorance of the issues.

Please let the *Washington Post* know that transgender people deserve the same respect as anyone else. Certainly Tyra Hunter deserves better than what the *Post*

has allotted her here.

Contact Ms. Jackie Jones, DC Metro Editor, *Washington Post*, 1150 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20071-0002, e-mail via WWW: <http://www.washingtonpost.com>.

Contemporary Pediatrics gets hip to gay teens

The November issue of *Contemporary Pediatrics*, a magazine received by over 40,000 doctors and nurses who care for children and adolescents, contains the first article on lesbian and gay youth in the magazine's history. The article, entitled "Caring for gay and lesbian teens" was written by Caitlin Ryan and Donna Futterman, and excerpted from their book *Lesbian & Gay Youth: Care and Counseling*. Ryan and Futterman cover vital information on (among other things): the physical and mental health effects of being stigmatized based on sexual orientation, working with families, counseling young people about discrimination and violence, coming out issues and career and parenting options.

Please thank *Contemporary Pediatrics* for making a definitive statement that the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth matters.

Contact: Editor, *Contemporary Pediatrics*, Medical Economics, 5 Paragon Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645-1742.

'Two Dads' make the world a better place

The November 10 "The Two Dads" column published in the *San Jose Mercury News* spoke to readers about how to help children grow up extending tolerance towards others, and how parents sometimes impart messages of "judgmentalism" without realizing it. The piece, entitled "Teach tolerance, make a better world," gives parents starting points for helping make their children aware and sensitive to difference. Included are talking with them about incidents they have witnessed, paying attention to signals they as parents are sending out, and being informed not just about prejudice, but about other cultures, beliefs and backgrounds.

In the wake of Matthew Shepard's murder (which "The Two Dads" refer to as an example of why tolerance must be taught), parent advice like this is both timely and crucial. Please thank the *San Jose Mercury News* and the

writers of "The Two Dads" (Russ Quaglia and Doug Hall) for their perceptive and responsible column.

Contact: Mr. David Yarnold, Managing Editor, and Russ Quaglia & Doug Hall, c/o *San Jose Mercury News*, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190-0001; e-mail: letters@sjmercury.com.

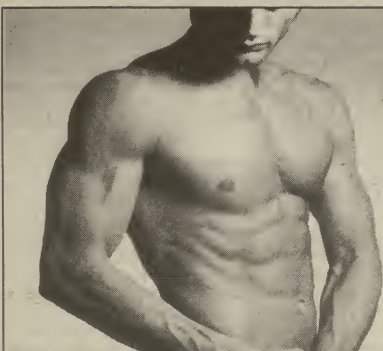
'A Letter' to St. Louis

The *St. Louis Business Journal's* November 9 issue contains a column by Mark Vittert examining homophobia in light of Matthew Shepard's murder, and by using the perspective of two fathers, makes a very moving plea for understanding and acceptance. The writer received a letter from a young man attending college, who had heard him speak out for gay rights. The student then wrote of having to confront homophobia as a gay man. Vittert uses the letter as a springboard for discussing, in a very accessible way, how "times have changed" from when he was a young man. He thinks of the letter, and of Shepard, and writes that "the only words that came to me were understanding and love." Vittert closes by remembering Shepard's father speaking at his son's funeral, talking about how good and loving his son was. He then tells that the young man who wrote the letter to him said that Vittert knew his father, and asked him to please talk to him and help him understand, since Vittert obviously did.

The appearance of such a warm, personal, and thoughtful piece in a business journal is a welcome contribution to the discussion of issues faced by members of the LGBT community, especially at a time when it is under attack by those who would have us "cured" rather than accepted. Please thank the *St. Louis Business Journal* for their publication of Mark Vittert's commentary.

Contact: Ms. Patricia Miller, Editor, *St. Louis Business Journal*, One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2170, St. Louis, MO 63102, fax: (314) 621-5031, e-mail: stlouis@amcity.com ▼

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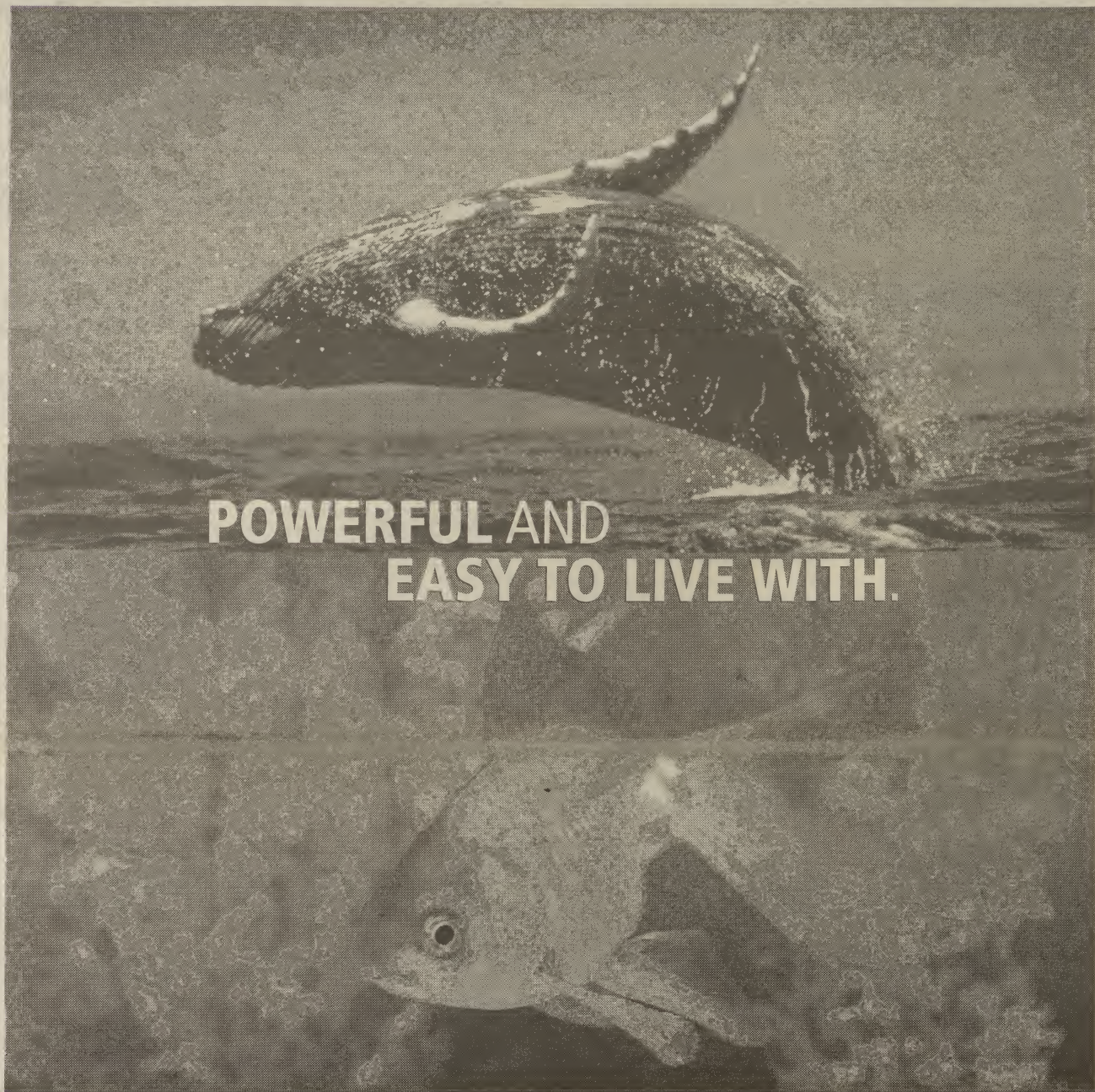
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other organ systems.) **VIRACEPT IS EASY TO LIVE WITH** Take it three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks. **VIRACEPT IS GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED** People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea of moderate or greater intensity in 20% of people in

clinical trials. **VIRACEPT WORKS** It's indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some HIV related

medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the

onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit **www.agouron.com**.

(Refer to the important information on the next page.)

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Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept) Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), EpiVir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute® Cardioquin® Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- EpiVir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir® (ritonavir)
The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)
The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

| Body Weight | | Number of Level Scoops* | Number of Level Teaspoons† | Number of Tablets |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Kg | Lb | | | |
| 7 to < 8.5 | 15.5 to <18.5 | 4 | 1 | - |
| 8.5 to <10.5 | 18.5 to <23 | 5 | 1¼ | - |
| 10.5 to <12 | 23 to <26.5 | 6 | 1½ | - |
| 12 to <14 | 26.5 to <31 | 7 | 1¾ | - |
| 14 to <16 | 31 to <35 | 8 | 2 | - |
| 16 to <18 | 35 to <39.5 | 9 | 2¼ | - |
| 18 to <23 | 39.5 to <50.5 | 10 | 2½ | 2 |
| ≥23 | ≥50.5 | 15 | 3¾ | 3 |

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

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Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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HISTORY LESSON

Who was Christine Jorgensen?

by David Bianco

Today, with the growth of the transsexual movement, sex reassignment surgery is becoming more and more familiar. But in 1952, when George Jorgensen, Jr., underwent surgery and emerged as Christine, the story made headlines—especially in tabloids around the world.

Jorgensen was not the first person to have a sex change operation. Experiments in sex reassignment surgery had taken place sporadically in Europe since the early 1930s. The word "transsexual," however, was not used to describe those who underwent the surgery until 1949, when D.O. Cauldwell wrote about "psychopathic transsexuality" in the popular journal, *Sexology*.

But it took the story of an ex-G.I. from the Bronx to bring transsexuality to public attention. Born in 1926, George Jorgensen was a slender blond boy who grew up liking to do needlepoint. In school, children laughed at his "sissified" ways. At 19, when he was inducted into the army, he weighed only 98 pounds, with almost no body hair and underdeveloped genitals. Jorgensen worried that he was a homosexual, but as he got older he began to believe that he might be a woman in a man's body—"a sexual mix-up," he told the psychiatrist he consulted after his release from the army in 1946.

Jorgensen studied photography under the G.I. Bill but spent most of his free time searching for information about his "condition." After reading a book called *The Male Hormone*, he became obsessed with chemical theories about gender and with "conversion" surgery. He even enrolled in medical technician classes to learn as much as he could about his body. While in school, Jorgensen was able to obtain female hormone pills and

began experimenting on himself.

Jorgensen slowly saved his money and by April 1950 had enough for a one-way passage to Copenhagen, where hormone treatment and conversion were being done by Dr. Christian Hamburger and his associates. Jorgensen offered himself as a guinea pig to Hamburger, who had a theory that a person could be outwardly a man while his body chemistry and brain remained female. Because the work was still highly experimental, Jorgensen was charged nothing for his treatment, which began in August of that year.

After a year of hormone treatment, during which Jorgensen's physical appearance changed drastically, his doctors recommended surgery. Because

Jorgensen was an American, the surgery had to be approved by the Danish Ministry of Justice. In September 1951, Jorgensen underwent his first surgery, which removed his testicles. He then applied for and was granted a new passport under the name Christine—a feminine version of Dr. Hamburger's first name.

Jorgensen had never told his family why he was in Denmark. Ostensibly, he had been studying photography and beginning to earn a living at it. In June 1952, Christine Jorgensen wrote a long letter to her parents, in which she revealed that "nature had made a mistake, which I corrected, and I am now your daughter." She enclosed photos of herself since the surgery. Amazingly, her parents were open-minded and accepting, cabling her back immediately: "Letter and pictures received. We love you more than ever. Mom and Dad."

Late that fall, Jorgensen had a second surgical procedure. While still recuperating in the hospital, she found out that a front-page story would be breaking in New York's *Daily News* on December 1, under the headline "Ex-G.I. Becomes Blonde Beauty." A technician at the hospital had tipped off a reporter, who then approached Jorgensen's parents for an interview. In the interest of getting the correct story into print, her parents cooperated with the newspaper, even lending the "after" photos that their daughter had sent them and her letter detailing the reasons for her surgery.

When the story broke, Dr. Hamburger began receiving hundreds of letters from individuals seeking treatment. Jorgensen, too, was bombarded with mail, but many of those who wrote simply wanted to capitalize on her overnight celebrity. Warner Brothers Studios advised her to contact them if she was interested in a movie career. Clubs and theaters from New York to Las Vegas offered her as much as \$1,000 a week for an appearance.

Jorgensen had no real talent for performing, but she quickly decided that "if [the public] wanted to see me, they would have to pay for it." She hired an agent, who booked her into nightclubs across the country. Introduced by the song "I Enjoy

Being a Girl," her act consisted mostly of witty repartee with a comedian named Myles Bell. Reviewers noted that, while she couldn't really sing or dance, Jorgensen had fabulous costumes and a flair for "showmanship." She continued on the nightclub circuit well into the 1960s and also did stunts in summer stock.

In 1959, Jorgensen made headlines again when her application for a license to marry John Traub was denied, because she had never had her birth certificate changed to read "female." Though the tabloids reported that Traub "dumped" her, she wrote in her autobiography that the two mutually agreed to drop their marriage plans and parted as friends.

Jorgensen died in 1989 after a long bout with liver and bladder cancer. One of her many obituaries was titled "A Girl at Heart." Though trivialized and sensationalized by the media, Jorgensen's story did bring transsexuality out of the closet and offered hope to many individuals who had felt similarly trapped in their bodies. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of *Modern Jewish History for Everyone*. He can be reached care of this publication or at AriBianco@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.gay.net.

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For further reading:

Hamburger, C., G.K. Sturup, and E. Dahl-Iversen. "Transvestism: Hormonal, Psychiatric, and Surgical Treatment." *Journal of the American Medical Association* 152 (1953): 391-396.

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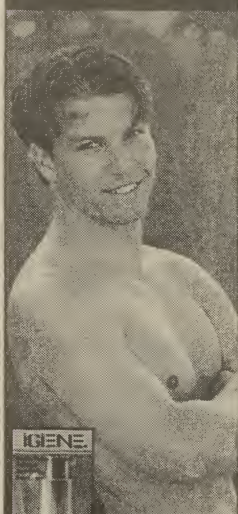
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'Bam! Pow! Crunch!'

Self-defense for queers Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

As a community-wide response to the Matthew Shepard tragedy and other anti-gay violence, the Stop AIDS Project (SAP) and Community United Against Violence (CUAV) will host a free afternoon self-defense training and discussion about violence and HIV prevention this Saturday, December 5 at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

Unlike most of SAP's forums that are aimed at gay and bisexual men, organizer Darlene Weide said Saturday's training, entitled "Bam! Pow! Crunch!" is open to everyone in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. "We hope it's different and exciting. It's not just for gay and bi men," Weide told the Bay Area Reporter.

SAP and CUAV organized the forum to illuminate the connections between community violence, internalized homophobia, and HIV prevention. The goal of the training is to develop strategies for confronting both internal and external attacks on the health and safety of the LGBT community.

All participants will receive a free self-defense goody bag, Weide said,

SAP and CUAV organized the forum to illuminate the connections between community violence, internalized homophobia, and HIV prevention.

and those attending will get hands-on self-defense training and demonstrations. Interested people should dress comfortably, she added.

During the forum, results from

more than 100 street surveys conducted with gay and bisexual men over the past month on their attitudes regarding the queer community will be discussed. The results

offered will include responses from several questions, including: Have you ever experienced gay-related violence? How do you think we respond to violence as a community? What do you see as the connection between the community's response to violence and the community's response to HIV? ▼

The forum takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th Street at Collingwood. For more info, call SAP at (415) 575-0150.

SFAF to screen new prevention approach

by Mark Norby

Increasingly aware that HIV posters and advertisements have become irrelevant to many gay men, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) will try a different medium—video—this week.

In what SFAF says is an attempt to wake up the community by introducing innovative new approaches to HIV prevention, the organization will screen a video presentation, *Days of Our Gay Lives Part IV—Homo for the Holidays*, this Wednesday, November 9. The video screening is part of an ongoing real-life soap opera "ripped from the lives of actual gay men," according to Jeff De

Lucio-Brock, senior media relations associate at SFAF.

The video follows the travails of two star-crossed gay men living their lives, doing their thing. Between segments an emcee encourages the audience to open up about a host of issues spurred by the video. Intending to re-ignite viewers via video and active discussion, SFAF will tackle the nucleus of the gay male: body image, aging, relationships, and most importantly, HIV.

"It's SFAF's Gay Life program," Brock told the B.A.R., "a year-old effort that promotes sexual health and emotional well-being among gay and bisexual men."

The program attempts to get gay men to tune in to prevention

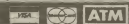
messages at a time when many are tuning out because they're "used to prevention messages and poster campaigns," said De Lucio-Brock. "The community needs an event like this to inspire lively discussion. We'll show campy, volunteer-produced video to more than 100 gay and bisexual men. We'll also provide free food and a scavenger hunt," all in the cool confines of the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. ▼

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show starts at 7:30 in the Yerba Buena Arts Forum Room, located at 701 Mission Street. Call (415) 487-3072 for more information.

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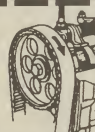
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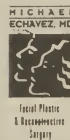


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Correction:

Jonathan Katz was erroneously identified as the executive director of the Harvey Milk Institute in last week's *Bay Area Reporter*. In fact, he is founder and co-chair of the board of directors of the Harvey Milk Institute (as well as the chair of the Department of GLB studies at City College of San Francisco).

Kevin Schaub is the HMI executive director.

The *B.A.R.* apologizes to everyone. ▼

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Only a doctor can determine if PROPECIA is right for you. PROPECIA is for **men only**. Further, women who are or may potentially be pregnant must not use PROPECIA and should not handle crushed or broken tablets because of the risk of a specific kind of birth defect. (See accompanying Patient Information for details.) PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more to see visible results. PROPECIA may not regrow all your hair. And if you stop using this product, you will gradually lose the hair you have gained. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works for recession at the temporal areas. If you haven't seen results after 12 months of using PROPECIA, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit.

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Sonoma County launches emergency fund for PWAs

by Lois Pearlman

With the first big storm of the season howling outside, officials of the AIDS Emergency Fund/Sonoma County (AEF/SC) held a press conference in Santa Rosa Monday, November 23 to announce the start of a local program for providing emergency money to people with "disabling HIV and AIDS."

Boasting a bankroll of over \$100,000, including \$38,500 from the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund, the program will provide emergency grants of up to \$400 per year for eligible people with HIV and AIDS in Sonoma County. The money is available on an emergency basis for such necessities as rent, utility bills, and medications.

"It may be the difference for some people between having a place to live this winter and being

homeless," said Ron Carp, executive director of Food for Thought, the organization that will act as fiscal agent for the grant program.

AEF/SC, a coalition of AIDS service providers, people with HIV/AIDS and other community leaders, will administer the program. All members of AEF/SC are

Sunburst Projects in Rohnert Park, a support organization for children and families with HIV/AIDS. These two agencies will determine whether applicants are eligible for the grants, and Food for Thought will forward checks to the appropriate parties — landlords, utility companies, etc.

"We have no office. We are a virtual provider."

— AEF/SC chair Betsy Van Dyke.

volunteers, and only five percent of the funds are expected to be spent on administrative costs.

"We have no office. We are a virtual provider," quipped AEF/SC chair Betsy Van Dyke.

Applications for the grants are available at Face to Face in Guerneville and Santa Rosa, and

— for direct payment.

Eligibility requirements include at least six months residence in Sonoma County, a monthly income of \$1,456 or less, and a current letter of diagnosis stating that the applicant has "disabling HIV disease or AIDS." Youngsters are also eligible, and families with an HIV-infected parent and HIV-positive child are automatically qualified for \$800 or more.

SF budget constraints

This new grant program fills the vacuum left when the San Francisco AEF suspended emergency grants to people with HIV/AIDS in Sonoma and some other surrounding counties this January, due to budgetary constraints. At that time SFAEF agreed to continue offering grants in counties that could raise 65 percent matching funds.

Following a February 25 meeting in Sebastopol between SFAEF officials and people in the Sonoma County HIV/AIDS community, locals formed an ad hoc coalition and began to raise funds with the goal of reinstating the grants in Sonoma County. Over the next seven months the group collected more than \$50,000, including \$30,000 from the county's general fund and \$6,000 from a weekend event on the Russian River sponsored by Castro Bears Presents.

In September SFAEF board members decided to give \$38,500 in matching funds to AEF/SC as a one-time only donation, and provide technical assistance to the group so it could set up its own emergency fund program.

Officials at the press conference said they were delighted with their group and the community as a whole for its quick and generous response to the crisis.

"Everyone on this committee should be very proud of themselves," said Erik Olson, a PWA serving on the Sonoma County Commission on AIDS, and a member of the coalition.

Olson, a PWA who is currently living with friends in Rohnert Park while he saves money for his own place, said he would be applying for an emergency grant in December to help pay for rent and utilities. ▼

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What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss on the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area. PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s. Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel™ Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

- Take one tablet by mouth each day.
- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
- If you forget to take PROPECIA, do not take an extra tablet. Just take the next tablet as usual.

PROPECIA will not work faster or better if you take it more than once a day.

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Issued December 1997
9090801

982306(3)(801)-PRP

Patient Information about PROPECIA®

(Pro-pee-sha)

Generic name: finasteride
(fin-AS-tur-eyed)

Who should **NOT** take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:
— must not use PROPECIA
— should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

The active ingredient in PROPECIA is also used by older men at a five-times higher dose to treat enlargement of the prostate. Some of these men reported other side effects, including problems with ejaculation, breast swelling and/or tenderness and allergic reactions such as lip swelling and rash. In clinical studies with PROPECIA, these side effects occurred as often in men taking placebo as in those taking PROPECIA.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

1-800-830-7375, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. (ET).

Propecia™ (Finasteride) Tablets

Sonoma County residents who need an emergency grant should phone Face to Face at (707) 544-1581 or (707) 859-7380, or Sunburst Projects at (707) 588-9477. They do not have to be clients of these agencies to apply.

COMMUNITY NEWS

AEF open meeting Tues.

Breast cancer, other topics on agenda

by Cynthia Laird

The AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) will hold its annual community meeting this Tuesday, December 8 at Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco to get input from consumers and others interested in how the agency does business.

One of the topics AEF's board of directors wants to discuss at the community meeting is the possibility of initiating a new fund to provide emergency financial assistance to women living with breast cancer. Ken Turner, AEF's treasurer, emphasized that if this idea becomes a reality, it would only be through new funds specifically aimed at women with breast cancer; no AEF funds for people living with HIV/AIDS would be used.

"We're just looking at public support for new money," Turner told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Turner said AEF could set up the program at virtually no increased cost; AEF has one of the lowest administrative overheads of any local AIDS service organization and has no paid executive director. If the board decides to go ahead with getting breast cancer funds to distribute, the new fund could be run out of the same office, Turner explained. The community's response to the AIDS crisis, which is looked at as a model for other life threatening illnesses, led to the creation of "all these wonderful networks," Turner said. Some set-ups, like AEF, could easily accommodate grants for breast cancer to provide financial help to low income women living with the disease.

Rick Salinas, AEF's vice president, said he supports the idea and hopes to overcome any resistance that may be expressed at Tuesday's meeting.

"I'm all for it," Salinas told the B.A.R. He pointed out the high incidence of breast cancer within the lesbian community and said he knows how supportive the lesbian community was when AIDS made inroads into the city's gay male population in the early years of the epidemic.

Salinas echoed Turner's statements that any money used to help women with breast cancer would be completely separate; the fund would be called the AIDS Emergency Fund Breast Cancer Project.

"It's a well-deserved payback," said Salinas. "I think it brings the entire gay community together."

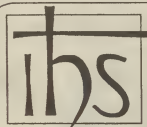
This has been a good year for AEF, which provides emergency financial assistance to thousands of people living with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco and some surrounding counties. Last year the agency had to lower grant amounts and in some cases, cease services in some surrounding counties. However, this year AEF was able to approve a one-time increase in grant amounts for San Francisco residents, thanks to additional federal funding through the Ryan White CARE Act. That money needs to be expended by the end of February. New clients are eligible for an annual grant of \$600, while those who have received the maximum \$500 this year are eligible for an additional \$100. ▼

Tuesday's meeting starts at 7 p.m. at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka Street. For information on AEF's services, call (415) 558-6999.

Tree up for grabs



This holiday tree, complete with 3,800 lights, scores of mirrored boots and motorcycles, 75 leather bows, and 360 blue and silver balls will be auctioned off at the Powerhouse on Sunday, December 13. Additionally, dozens of prizes, including a round-trip airline ticket to anywhere in the U.S., will be raffled away. Conducting the bidding will be none other than Mr. December on the bare-chest calendar. The proceeds will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.



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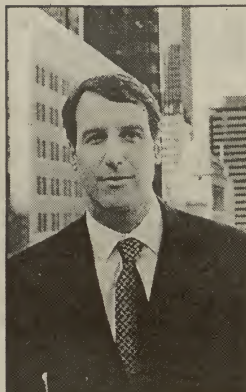
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Milk, Moscone march draws thousands



Undeterred by rain, the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band led thousands of marchers from the Castro to Civic Center last Friday, Nov. 27, to recall the slayings of Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone 20 years ago.

by Cynthia Laird

The rain started falling before marchers assembled outside of Harvey Milk's former camera shop on Castro Street last Friday, November 27, but that didn't stop the thousands of people who gathered to mark the 20th anniversary of the assassinations of Milk, a gay San Francisco supervisor, and former Mayor George Moscone.

A somber procession of people carrying candles made its way down Market Street, led by members of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Band and members of the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club.

San Francisco police estimated the crowd at 6,000, while one daily newspaper put the count much lower at 1,000. Milk Club President Criss Romero put the attendance at between 1,500 and 2,000 people. And, while there were a few technical glitches with the sound system, the march was

organized and peaceful. The group arrived in Civic Center Plaza across from the retrofitted City Hall, where ex-supervisor Dan White sneaked through a basement window to avoid metal detectors and found and shot Moscone and Milk 20 years earlier. The assassinations changed city politics forever.

Earlier in the week at a commemoration organized by Mayor Willie Brown, Jonathan Moscone, the youngest child of the former mayor, told the hundreds of people who attended the ceremony that he's gay and that his father would have been proud of him for coming out.

Milk was well-known for his ability to build coalitions, and several speakers at Friday's march mentioned his work with organized labor, senior citizens, and other groups. Officials who spoke also talked about Milk's belief that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) people should come out of the closet.

San Francisco Assemblywoman Carole Migden recalled the first time she met Milk when he was campaigning and came to her door. "He said, 'I want your vote.' I said 'I'm a lesbian separatist.'" Within a short time, she recalled, he overcame her resistance. In fact, she told the crowd gathered on Castro Street, "I was energized by him."

"Harvey said come out, love others, and make no apologies."

"It's San Francisco's LGBT community that's going to liberate the world ... I'm honored to be part of you. Each of us [should] do everything we can every day to push open that closet door," Migden added.

Former Supervisor Harry Britt, who took Milk's place on the board, also spoke to the crowd on Castro Street.

Down at Civic Center Plaza, Gwenn Craig, an activist who once served on the police commission, emphasized the coalitions Milk worked to build. His was the first campaign she felt enthusiastic about and Milk became her mentor, she said.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Lillian Sing, a former social worker and one of the first Asian-American women appointed to a city commission, also talked about coalitions. "I see today we've not done it," Sing told the crowd. "Today, gays and lesbians have achieved great power but don't forget there are still people out there not in the loop."

Two supes left out

Two of San Francisco's queer supervisors, Leslie Katz and Mark Leno, were left out of the loop by the Milk Club; neither was invited to speak during the event. Supervisor Tom Ammiano was the only openly gay supervisor to speak. While Katz and Leno were on hand at the end of the march, only Ammiano addressed the crowd. "He didn't get to witness cyberspace," Ammiano said of Milk, "but I know he would have been a terror in a chatroom." The supervisor, who becomes board president next month, also reminded the crowd of Milk's work with unions and said if he were still alive, Milk would ride Muni daily like Ammiano does. Some people shouted "Ammiano for mayor" as the popular supervisor spoke, with a portion of City Hall lit in the background. "We will not go away and we are here," he added.

The viaticalsettlements.com Team invites you to join us at this time of

Thanksgiving and on World AIDS Day



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Western Region Executive
Phone Extension 100



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Latino Relations
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Being grateful for the joy, laughter and good times we shared with people who have died of AIDS, while remembering and honoring their courage and dignity in the face of death;

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**If you're HIV+, CRIXIVAN may help you live
a longer, healthier life.**



■ **New NIH research showed people taking CRIXIVAN in triple therapy lived longer and experienced fewer opportunistic infections.**

- Recent year-long research conducted by the National Institutes of Health (Protocol ACTG 320) studied over 1,000 patients and confirmed results from another study.
- The group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. This reduction was significant enough for the NIH to recommend the study be stopped, so that all participants could benefit from the findings. Because the study was ended early, there was insufficient data to determine the statistical impact of CRIXIVAN on survival.

■ **CRIXIVAN in triple therapy continues to hold serum viral load down below the limit of detection at the one year mark.**

- In a separate, ongoing landmark study, over 90% of the 31 patients receiving CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their HIV serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks (as measured by available tests; the virus may still be present in other organ systems).
- Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one year mark.

■ **CRIXIVAN is generally well tolerated.**

- CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. There are side effects associated with protease inhibitors in general and CRIXIVAN in particular. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems. There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.
- As with other protease inhibitors, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Please read the following page for detailed information on side effects and dosing.

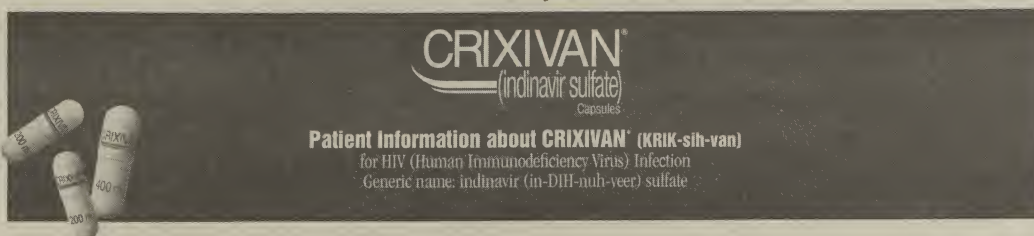
Please read the following page for more detailed information about CRIXIVAN.

**Remember to
ask your doctor
about CRIXIVAN.**

CRIXIVAN[®]
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules

Going the distance.

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.



Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, you should read the information included with CRIXIVAN each time you receive your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays." If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day.** CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN. Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| SELDANE® (terfenadine) | HISMANAL® (astemizole) |
| VERSED® (midazolam) | HALCION® (triazolam) |
| PROPULSID® (cisapride) | Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®) |

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

| | |
|---|--|
| RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT) | BIAXIN® (clarithromycin) |
| TAGAMET® (cimetidine) | isoniazid (INH) |
| DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole) | ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive) |
| | ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T) |

EPIVIR® (lamivudine, 3TC)

BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

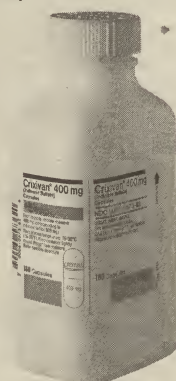
Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: abdominal swelling; inflammation of the kidneys; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; severe skin reactions; hair loss; crystals in the urine; and allergic reactions.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F–86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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CRIXIVAN®
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules

High mark for AIDS charity



On World AIDS Day, December 1, good news came from Under One Roof Chairman Marc Hettinger (right) and Merchandise Manager Leslie Ewing, who announced the nonprofit store had achieved the \$5 million mark in sales benefiting 50 AIDS service organizations.

Craftswomen fair set for two-weekend run

Many lesbian and bi artists to sell work

by Cynthia Laird

Nearly 300 of the world's finest craftswomen will exhibit their ceramics, jewelry, furniture, photography, wearable art, as well as work in other genres, at the 20th Celebration of Craftswomen holiday crafts fair this weekend, December 5 and 6 and next weekend, December 12 and 13 at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion. The fair is a benefit for the Women's Building in San Francisco, and nearly 75 of the participants are lesbians or bisexual women.

More than 20,000 craft collectors and holiday shoppers went to the fair last year, organizers said. Showcasing the artistry of 280 of the nation's most talented craftswomen, the fair aims to promote visibility and economic empowerment of women artists and craftswomen, to represent a cross-section of art by women of different cultural backgrounds, and to showcase the work of emerging artists.

Featuring 140 different artists of diverse ethnic backgrounds each weekend, the Celebration of Craftswomen is the largest juried women's crafts fair in the United States. This year, in recognition of its 20th year, the fair will feature a number of special programs, including an exhibit of crafts 20 years from now, in 2018; a \$20 anniversary special; a silent auction; a raffle; and a revealing article in the fair program about the history of the event.

The exhibit "In the Year 2018" will display drawings and prototypes of how contemporary craftswomen see their work two decades from now. These drawings will be in display throughout each weekend, along with a retrospective poster and program display of the last 20 years.

This year the Celebration of Craftswomen offers a 20th anniversary \$20 special. Many craftswomen will have one or more items on sale for \$20 each. Due to the nature of some crafts, it is not feasible for all the artists to participate, but there will be a special section in the program and signs at the fair to alert customers to which artists are offering the specials.

The fair is a major fundraising

event for the Women's Building and the silent auction is an exciting and important component of the fundraising effort. Craft artists have donated pieces that will be auctioned off in the silent auction at two-hour intervals both weekends. Donated items will be on display in front of the fair.

Visitors to the fair can take a surprise chance to get their holiday shopping done in one easy shot with the benefit raffle. Winners will receive fabulous and original craft items donated by this year's exhibitors. Drawings are hourly; they also benefit the Women's Building.

SLUG jam

This year's participating artists represent the full spectrum of quality fine arts and crafts for which the Celebration of Craftswomen is known. Featured are functional and decorative ceramics and glass; sculpted wood and metals; contemporary polymer to traditional precious metal jewelry; woven clothing and wearable art; household accessories; and children's toys. Among the lesbian artists are Brenda Williams of Richmond, who will show luxurious leather and fabric purses and bags, and Barbara Sebastian of San Francisco, who will have her exquisitely delicate and fanciful ceramic "fetish jars" for sale. Other artists include Oaklander Daniella Hoffman offering up her "Garden of Delights" pearl and enamel flower earrings, and Kavita Singh of Saratoga with her gorgeous hand-painted silk scarves.

Each year the fair features several special projects: the 1998 line-up includes SLUG (San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners). SLUG makes Urban Herbals, organic locally grown products including jams, vinegars, salsas, and honey. SLUG uses only locally grown ingredients with no preservatives. They also provide employment and job training for inner city youth and young adults.

The San Francisco Women's Alcoholism Center (WAC) will be represented by a booth that will provide information about the community-based nonprofit. Material available will include information on drug and alcohol abuse, community education ma-

terials, and artwork. WAC is led by women committed to the process of recovery and empowerment for all women.

Lozmar Exclusive Designs will also be highlighted. Lozmar is a collective of 21 Mayan families and seamstresses who work from their homes, hand-weaving unique Guatemalan garments. Lozmar artists at the fair will display examples of the vests, jackets, shirts, blankets, and scarves they create using only natural fibers and dyes.

A gourmet and specialty food court with international cuisine and a wide variety of coffees will add extra flair to this holiday extravaganza. With gourmet treats, specialty foods-to-go, and exotic gift baskets, the food court offers more gift ideas or a chance to try something new. Live entertainment will showcase a variety of carnivalesque musical groups and create a festive atmosphere for fairgoers.

The fair is presented annually by its beneficiary, the Women's Building, the first women-owned and operated nonprofit female community center in the country. In its 28-year history, the Women's Building has helped launch more than 125 different projects, including the first battered women's shelter on the West Coast, the first residential women's alcoholism treatment program in the country, and the award-winning San Francisco Women's Philharmonic Orchestra.

Admission to the event is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, free for children under 12, with special group discounts. The celebration offers a special two-day pass for \$10, to encourage patrons to enjoy the entire event and to view works from all participating craftswomen. Child care is not available, but this year the fair will feature a "young artists" area at the front of the pavilion, which will have a variety of craft projects for children. Parking is available at Marina Middle School both weekends. The Herbst Pavilion is wheelchair accessible. ▼

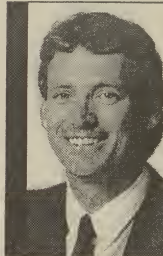
The fair runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. all four days. Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion is located at Buchanan Street and Marina Boulevard. For more info, call (415) 252-8981.

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Gay, gray, and grand

An interview with George Roosen

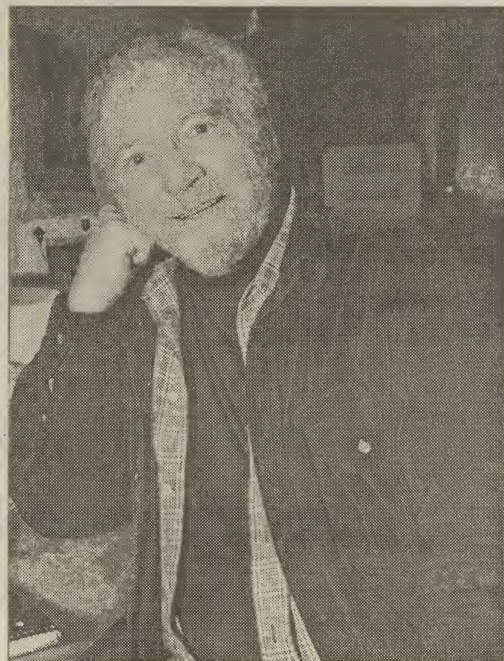
by Patrick D. Hoctel

George Roosen, 75, was born on June 18, 1923, on Long Island, New York. He grew up in Southern California, went to public school in Los Angeles, and graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) with a degree in art history ("Despite the degree, I've managed to make a living anyway"). He's lived in San Francisco since 1977.

Self-employed for most of his professional life, Roosen owned businesses that catered to the building and decorating trades, and ran his own gift and antiques shops. Today, he's the men's coordinator at Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE), an organization he's worked for since 1986.

Roosen chuckles at the question of whether he ever imagined anything like the life he lives now as a septuagenarian. Fixing the questioner with an amused stare, he comments, "In the first place, I never thought I'd live this long. I wake up and it's like, 'Jesus, are you still here?'"

"In the second place, I was one of the few gay people I knew who wasn't a bit afraid of getting older. When I was in my 20s, I dated and went with a group of professional men who were in their 40s, and I continued to know them over a length of time. I remember I had done this home show when they



George Roosen

were in their 40s, and they all came by and said hello. And 20 years later, I'm working in another show, and they came by and they're in their 60s - and I'm looking at them thinking, 'Hell, still hot!' They were still having a good time, still busy. So I had a background where there was a range of [ages]."

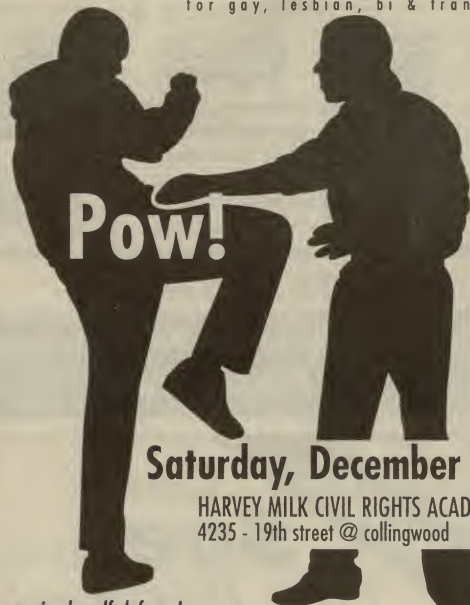
Roosen leans over slightly to confide that "as a matter of fact, one of the couples, one of the men was a young man of 64, and his lover was 94. I just saw that if you kept on working and kept on doing things, that being old was no problem."

Advantages to independence

Doing things seems to come naturally to Roosen, who was holding three different conversations as well as fielding a phone call as this interview began at the New Leaf offices, where GLOE is housed, on Market Street. His half-time position as men's coordinator there keeps him on the go far more than the 20 hours a week he officially puts in. He fondly, albeit succinctly, describes the organization and his job thusly: "I organize groups for the men. We have to keep track of everyone

next page ►

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*Not all dental services are covered. Details of program available from office staff during the times listed above. Information not available on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

George Roosen

◀ previous page

who comes in for the Commission on Aging [their financial sponsor]. I do a lot of phone counseling, and I run the Men's Depression Group. That kind of stuff.

"We're a program to serve lesbian and gay seniors. It's the same as a senior center, only we don't have a center. The social service part is to connect them with the services they need, and it's the same kinds of things that would be done by social workers and others at a center. We serve about 350 individuals a year, but some people come three or four times a week. They have to be over 60, and most of our members are in their mid-70s. We have one man who's 97, but he doesn't come to many things."

No doubt, at least in part due to Roosen's age, work, and life experience, he has definite opinions on the special problems gay men face as regards aging that the general populace does not: "Because so many men moved to San Francisco, in particular, to 'be gay,' they are cut off from family — so there isn't the depth of the family connections that heterosexuals have."

However, he also sees benefits in this situation, especially for gay men of his generation. "You had to make your own life, and during the period that we made ours, it was against everybody's disapproval, so you became relatively independent. That part is a tremendous advantage and sort of balances out the other. It's very sad but the social background

that we knew — which was when everyone was in secret and you went to other people's apartments — but what it ended up as is that you went out to dinner three times a week at someone's home and you probably knew about 70 people. You really had a group around you. That kind of background, which was forced on us by having to be closeted, has disappeared, and a lot of men feel the lack of that. And that's what we [GLOE] are trying to do, and that's why this group sticks together. It's because it makes that kind of linkage."

Besides the passing of an old but warmly recalled gay social order, Roosen also actively laments the large number of friends, lovers, and associates lost to the AIDS pandemic. His natural ebullience tapers off a bit when he admits that "it was too much of a loss. My partner Chuck and I really feel it badly because we have three sets of friends who are completely gone. It's sort of like we're floating out here with no attachments, except those we've manufactured in the last 10 to 15 years."

Old doesn't equal lonely

That said, however, Roosen vigorously disputes the stereotype of the older gay man as lonely, isolated, and depressed. When asked if he believes there's any truth to that notion, he firmly says, "No! And I'll tell you why."

"When I was in my 20s, I asked a very wonderful older gay man, 'Do you think I'll be a lonely old queen?' And he said, 'Are you lonely now?' And I said, 'Of course not.' And he said, 'Well, you won't

be lonely then. People who are lonely young queens turn out to be lonely old queens. It's a personality thing, and it doesn't have much to do with being gay or not.' I think it's very true, because in heterosexual society, there are a lot of lonely old men, and there are a lot of older men who just connected with everybody. It depends on your social adjustment and your personality."

Roosen cuts off the next query before it is even asked. "I want to tell you," he says, "this amazing thing. In our Men's Friendship Group, we were asking about periods in life, and they — about 35 older gay men — were told to write down what they considered the happiest period of their life. Two-thirds said *now*."

"There's a thing in your 60s — and I went through this — when you get terribly frightened about getting old, but when you get past 70, that evaporates. Then what happens is that you're really able to enjoy the moment, much more than you've been able to at any other point in your life. You're 20, you want a good job, to get the education, make the money. You're 30, you want the big romance. All those things that you're constantly ... and so, when you get older, you think, 'I may not live long, so I might as well have a good time this afternoon.'"

"And I would agree with those men. This is certainly the happiest period of my life." ▼

GLOE offices are located at 1874 Market Street (at Laguna). Call (415) 255-2937 for information on their various activities and groups for gay and lesbian seniors.



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BAY AREA REPORTER

Voice and light add Dignity to the Gospel of Mark

by Mark Norby

Michael Reardon's voice combines with Patrick Lane's light in *The Gospel According to Mark* this Saturday, December 5 at Dignity San Francisco. The performance promises to express the gospel in an innovative and powerful dramatic presentation, honoring the word of God in the spirit of its ministry of proclamation.

Reardon, a native of Anaconda, Montana, has dedicated his

life to memorizing the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John and the Book of Revelations and has performed together with Lane in over 600 cities in the U.S.

Lane, a native of Morrill, Nebraska, produced the costumes for this production and is Reardon's artistic director. Now based in San Francisco, Reardon and Lane have also performed in Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, the Republic of China, across Europe, and in Israel.

Dignity San Francisco, now in

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Milk march

◀ page 18

Last Friday's march was criticized by publicist Allen White, who wanted the Milk Club to let all three gay supervisors address the crowd as well as the mayor; the club leadership declined his suggestion. Brown missed the march for a second time since becoming mayor; he was in Dallas.

"They refused to include us, they said they only wanted people to speak who knew Harvey," Katz told the *Bay Area Reporter*. While she was upset with the lack of respect shown her as an elected official, she said Milk's message of inclusion came through and she said there were "some wonderful people at the march."

"What I had a problem with is the lack of respect, they [Milk Club] didn't return calls," said Katz. "I finally got a call from Criss Romero Friday morning when the office was closed."

"Harvey Milk's message was one of inclusion, achievement, and identity and that message can't be denigrated in any way.

That's the message, and of building coalitions," she added.

Romero told the *B.A.R.* that the march "went the way it was supposed to go."

"I felt happy with the intentions," said Romero, adding that it was a testament to the gay community that after 20 years, people could come to the march and talk about Milk and Moscone.

And, while Milk was clearly the center of attention at the march, several speakers remembered George Moscone and his work as mayor. Members of the Moscone family did not attend Friday, but son Christopher Moscone said in a phone call to White that the family was with the community on the anniversary of the day that held so much tragedy for so many San Franciscans.

"Convey to Leslie, Mark, and Tom that what I am doing is waiting with my wife to have our child on this special day," Christopher Moscone said in the call, according to a transcript. "I am with them and I am with the community and so is my whole family and so is my mom." ▼

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Why help the virus hurt you? Next time you're tempted to skip a dose or two, think again...or else a "minor" drug holiday could end up being a serious threat to your health. Don't let your vacation put HIV back to work.

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References: 1. CAESAR Coordinating Committee. Randomised trial of addition of lamivudine or lamivudine plus zalcitabine to zidovudine-containing regimens for patients with HIV-1 infection: the CAESAR trial. *Lancet*. 1997; 349:1413-1421. 2. Hammer SM, Squires KE, Hughes MD, et al. A controlled trial of two nucleoside analogues plus didanosine in persons with human immunodeficiency virus infection and CD4 cell counts of 200 per cubic millimeter or less. *N Engl J Med*. 1997;337:725-733.

Please see brief summary for Combivir on adjacent page.

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Printed in USA CBV226R0 October 1998

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BRIEF SUMMARY

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

The following is a brief summary only; see full prescribing information for complete product information.

WARNING: ZIDOVUDINE, ONE OF THE TWO ACTIVE INGREDIENTS IN COMBIVIR, HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATOLOGIC TOXICITY INCLUDING NEUTROPENIA AND SEVERE ANEMIA, PARTICULARLY IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED HIV DISEASE (SEE WARNINGS). PROLONGED USE OF ZIDOVUDINE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOMATIC MYOPATHY.

LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF ANTIRETROVIRAL NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING ZIDOVUDINE AND LAMIVUDINE (SEE WARNINGS).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: COMBIVIR is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection.

Description of Clinical Studies: COMBIVIR. There have been no clinical trials conducted with COMBIVIR. See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY for information about bioequivalence. One COMBIVIR Tablet given twice a day is an alternative regimen to EPVIR Tablets 150 mg twice a day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day in divided doses.

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine: The NUCB3007 (CAESAR) study was conducted using EPVIR 150-mg Tablets (150 mg b.i.d.) and RETROVIR 100-mg Capsules (2 x 100 mg t.i.d.). CAESAR was a multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled study comparing continued current therapy (zidovudine alone [62% of patients] or zidovudine with didanosine or zalcitabine [38% of patients]) to the addition of EPVIR or EPVIR plus an investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, randomized 1:2:1. A total of 1816 HIV-infected adults with 25 to 250 (median 122) CD4 cells/mm³ at baseline were enrolled; median age was 36 years, 87% were male, 84% were nucleoside-experienced, and 16% were therapy-naïve. The median duration on study was 12 months. Results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of Patients (%) With At Least One HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

| Endpoint | Current Therapy (n = 460) | EPVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 886) | EPVIR plus a NNRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 480) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| HIV progression or death | 90 (19.6%) | 86 (9.6%) | 41 (8.9%) |
| Death | 27 (5.9%) | 23 (2.6%) | 14 (3.0%) |

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: COMBIVIR Tablets are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the product.

WARNINGS: COMBIVIR is a fixed-dose combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Ordinarily, COMBIVIR should not be administered concomitantly with either lamivudine or zidovudine.

The complete prescribing information for all agents being considered for use with COMBIVIR should be consulted before combination therapy with COMBIVIR is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of antiretroviral nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including zidovudine and lamivudine. A majority of these cases have been in women. Caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient, and particularly to those with known risk factors for liver disease. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or hepatotoxicity.

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine, and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

General: Reduction of doses of lamivudine is recommended for patients with low body weight (less than 50 kg or 110 lb); therefore patients with low body weight should not receive COMBIVIR.

Patients with HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients with Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance <50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon- α , and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: **Carcinogenicity:**

Lamivudine: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg per day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 270.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five nonmetastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), nonmetastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately three times (mice) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately three times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (<1000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or <450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the lung, liver, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: **Lamivudine:** Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic study in rats given a single dose.

Impairment of Fertility: **Lamivudine:** In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

COMBIVIR: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo-fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets) and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers subsection of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving COMBIVIR. **Pediatric Use:** COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In four randomized, controlled trials of EPVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (>5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials With EPVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

| Adverse Event | EPVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251) |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Body as a whole | |
| Headache | 35% |
| Malaise & fatigue | 27% |
| Fever or chills | 10% |
| Digestive | |
| Nausea | 33% |
| Diarrhea | 18% |
| Nausea & vomiting | 13% |
| Anorexia and/or decreased appetite | 10% |
| Abdominal pain | 9% |
| Abdominal cramps | 6% |
| Dyspepsia | 5% |
| Nervous system | |
| Neuropathy | 12% |
| Insomnia & other sleep disorders | 11% |
| Dizziness | 10% |
| Depressive disorders | 9% |
| Respiratory | |
| Nasal signs & symptoms | 20% |
| Cough | 18% |
| Skin | |
| Skin rashes | 9% |
| Musculoskeletal | |
| Musculoskeletal pain | 12% |
| Myalgia | 8% |
| Arthralgia | 5% |

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPVIR in controlled clinical trials. Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials of EPVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

| Test (Abnormal Level) | EPVIR plus RETROVIR % (n) |
|--|---------------------------|
| Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³) | 7.2% (237) |
| Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL) | 2.9% (241) |
| Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm ³) | 0.4% (240) |
| ALT (>5.0 x ULN) | 3.7% (241) |
| AST (>5.0 x ULN) | 1.7% (241) |
| Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN) | 0.8% (241) |
| Amylase (>2.0 x ULN) | 4.2% (72) |

ULN = Upper limit of normal.

ANC = Absolute neutrophil count.

n = Number of patients assessed.

*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Observed During Clinical Practice: In addition to adverse events reported from clinical trials, the following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to a combination of their seriousness, frequency of reporting, or potential causal connection to EPVIR and/or RETROVIR.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hyperglycemia.

General: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), vasculitis.

Hepatobiliary Tract and Pancreas: Lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness with CPK elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous: Seizures.

Skin: Alopecia, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria.

OVERDOSEAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis. **Zidovudine:** Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and one report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is one tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily.

Dose Adjustment: Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min), those with low body weight (<50 kg or 110 lb), or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

US Patent Nos. 5,047,407; 4,818,538; 4,828,838; 4,724,232; 4,833,130; and 4,837,208

GlaxoWellcome

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Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from Biochem Pharma Inc.
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May 1998/RL-589

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Former Zimbabwe prez flees country, accused of sodomy

by S. Predrag

The first Zimbabwean president, Canaan Banana, fled the country on the eve of his indictment by the High Court in Harare, which found him guilty of almost a dozen charges of sodomy, attempted sodomy, and indecent assault.

Local media reported Thursday, November 26 that the former president flew west to neighboring Botswana without a passport, but more recent information suggests that Banana fled south and is now in South Africa, a country that recently rejected anti-homosexual laws.

Zimbabwe state prosecutor Augustine Chikumira informed the court Friday that a warrant of arrest had been issued for Banana.

The scandal involving the 63-year-old Methodist minister — a married man with four children — erupted in February last year, during the trial of his former aide, Jefa Dube.

At the time, Dube, a soccer player and policeman, was sentenced to 10 years in jail for the 1995 murder of a fellow police officer who tauntingly called him "Banana's wife."

Later, Dube claimed that Banana had raped him in the Statehouse. The court heard testimony from others with similar accusations, and witnesses such as Banana's cook and gardener.

Banana, who served as Zimbabwe's first president from 1980 to 1987, rejected all the accusations and said that there was a "conspiracy against him."

He also appealed to the Harare court, claiming that negative pre-trial publicity in the media had prejudiced his right to a fair hearing.

'Heavy-handed attack'

It is widely believed that the scandal has deeply embarrassed President Robert Mugabe, a well-known critic of homosexuals, who has been quoted as saying that they were "lower than pigs."

Mugabe, 74, has repeatedly at-

tacked homosexuals, making inflammatory remarks, saying that even "animals in the jungle are better than these people because at least they know that this is a man or a woman." According to him, the sexual activities of homosexuals are against Christian beliefs, and God will one day punish them.

Mugabe has also condemned the World Council of Churches for its reported acceptance of the Gays and Lesbians Association of Zimbabwe (GALZ) at its conference, which is due to take place this week in Harare.

The attack drew sharp criticism at the time from almost all over the world; Amnesty International published a statement condemning "a heavy-handed attack upon the fundamental human right to freedom of expression, to which the Zimbabwean government is ostensibly committed under its international legal obligations."

Amnesty International went on to emphasize that every living person has the right to freely hold and express his or her convictions, and to be free from any kind of discrimination, including by reason of their sexual orientation.

Elsewhere in Africa

Soon after his attack on Zimbabwean homosexuals, Mugabe faced violent demonstrations when he arrived at Johannesburg's Ian Smuts International Airport to attend a regional meeting. South African media reported that several hundred South African gay and lesbian activists and their sympathizers forced Mugabe and his entourage to leave the airport through the back gate.

South Africa is the first country in Africa whose constitutional court recently declared that consensual sexual intercourse between members of the same sex is no longer unlawful. Gays and lesbians walked freely in the streets of Johannesburg during their recent pride parade, possibly the largest gathering of gays and lesbians on the African continent.

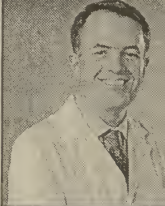
"The pride parade is our cele-

bration of our self-awareness," a march organizer said. "We respect our individuality and celebrate tolerance and humanity, and the right to love the person of our own choice."

That is not the case, however, in Namibia — which once went by the name South-west Africa — where Home Affairs Minister Jerry Ekandjo told Parliament he intends to introduce legislation to "curb the spread of homosexuality in society" by imposing "heavy penalties" on homosexuals.

According to Namibian media, Ekandjo also said, "It is my considered opinion that the so-called gay rights can never qualify as human rights. They are wrongly claimed because it is against true Namibian culture, African culture, and religion."

North of Zimbabwe, in Zambia, Vice President Christon Tembo recently warned that his government would not tolerate lawlessness, and underlined that members of the newly-formed Lesbians, Gays and Transgender Persons Association risked being prosecuted according to existing laws that prohibit involvement in "unnatural" sex acts, like sodomy or lesbianism. ▽




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Ecumenical AIDS service Sunday at East Bay Church

by Cynthia Laird

In honor of World AIDS Day, which was Tuesday, the HIV/AIDS Ministry of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Pinole invites interested people to attend an ecumenical prayer service this Sunday, December 6 at the East Bay church.

A section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display in the church, and several speakers will share their stories on how the virus has affected them personally and how they are coping and healing with the illness.

Also, a list will be read during the service of people who have died of complications from AIDS. People can add names to the list

by calling the parish center with the name or by writing the name on a piece of paper and placing it in one of the baskets at the entrance to the church.

Church officials invite people to "come share with us in God's love, as we join together in prayer and song as we remember all of those that are now suffering from this disease, as well as all that have lost their battle and have passed on."

Refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the service. ▽

The prayer service starts at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 837 Tennent Avenue in Pinole. To RSVP or for more information, call (510) 741-4900.



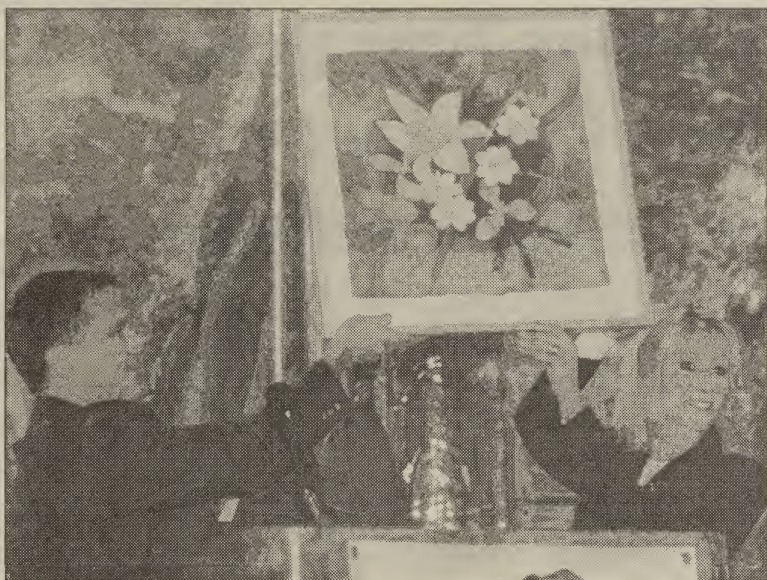
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On world AIDS Day, National AIDS Memorial Grove board member Len Weise and AIDS activist and actress Judith Light held up a poster by Richard Bolingbroke, to be bestowed as part of the first Grove Award for HIV/AIDS Community Service. The honored recipient was Irene Smith, recognized for her work in healing through touch.



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World AIDS Day

◀ page 1

istration gives final approval to the new drug.

Project Inform's Martin Delaney said, "Glaxo Wellcome clearly listened to our concerns" on pricing. His comments were as much directed towards DuPont and efforts by AIDS advocates to get that company to reduce the price of its drug Sustiva.

AIDS Action rates the feds

The AIDS Action Council issued its first-ever report card on the federal government's response to AIDS. The rating panel included former Surgeon General Dr.

Joycelyn Elders, Republican and PWA activist Mary Fisher, and former Congressman Steve Gunderson among its members.

It gave research efforts an "A-," chiefly because of the development of protease inhibitors. Daniel Zingale, AIDS Action's executive director, called this the "first real victory" in the fight against AIDS. It is "a testament to America's unwavering technological leadership." But he noted that it did little for most of the world that cannot afford them.

Fisher had urged a lower grade because of limited research on how both the disease and existing therapies affect women differently than they do men. She also noted the limited progress made on developing microbicides, a means of AIDS prevention that would empower women to protect themselves.

Treatment and care received a "B." Federal expenditures now total nearly \$2 billion annually, an increase of \$400 million over the last fiscal year. But the long term solution must include changes in entitlement programs, chiefly Medicaid.

Current policy requires that people poor enough to qualify for Medicaid must first develop full-blown AIDS before they can receive therapy. Zingale compared that to mandating the installation of airbags only in cars that have already crashed.

Vice President Al Gore pledged to change the policy in April 1997. But the administration backed down when a report came back that it would cost money to make those changes.

A few weeks ago the state of Maine submitted a waiver to Medicaid to try to provide early access to combination therapy on a "revenue neutral" basis. The administration is likely to grant the waiver request, if only because the number of patients and potential dollars is small. The real test will come when states with larger caseloads submit waiver requests. Florida is likely to be the first.

Prevention efforts were rated a "D." AIDS Action called for a 25 percent increase in funding as "morally right and fiscally sound."

International efforts received a failing "F." Development of a preventative vaccine is the highest priority. At the White House, President Clinton announced that funding for vaccine research at the National Institutes of Health

(NIH) would increase by a third, to \$200 million. However, two years after a vaccine program was created, no leader has been recruited to head up that effort. Many believe it is because the unclear lines of authority the position would have within the NIH bureaucracy has led leading candidates to decline a job offer.

We remember

A few dozen people gathered in Lafayette Park across from the White House at 6 p.m. They lit candles of remembrance in the warm winter dark. It has been a harsh year for a plague that some say has ended, so many of the local leaders in that struggle have died in the past 12 months.

There was Steve Michael, the ACT UP scourge of this president. Retired Navy officer turned activist Hank Carde, whose dogged determination helped to make the city AIDS agencies work to the extent that they do. Thomas Gleaton, founder of an AIDS services organization for African Americans.

And two weeks ago was Stephen Smith, the sweet-tempered ray of sunshine who helped to found both ACT UP and Queer Nation in the capital. He was the one who first thought of the idea of a buyers club for medical marijuana, opened the first one, and created the information package of practices and procedures upon which others were based.

"We promised to come to the White House every year until there is a cure available to all," said Wayne Turner with ACT UP Washington. "We are here to honor those who have died and recommit ourselves, once again, to fighting for a cure. To fighting for health care for everybody regardless of ability to pay. To fighting for basic prevention, like clean needles, which this administration continues not to fund."

"Thirty-three million people across this planet are infected with HIV," Turner said. "We have to fight for our brothers and sisters, not only here in Washington, D.C., but around the country and around the world."

"Why isn't this whole park full of people?" asked activist Cheryl Spector. "Where is everyone?" ▼

The AIDS Action Council rating is available at:
www.aidsaction.org

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Rev. A. Austin Amerine
December 26, 1921 —
November 21, 1998



The Rev. A. Austin Amerine died in Bellevue, Washington with friends and family present. Austin was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He would have been 77 this Christmas. He is survived by his

daughter, Dorothy, his son, Robert, several nieces and nephews, grandchildren, and one great grand son.

The memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Dec. 5, 1998, at MCC Portland, 2400 NE Broadway, Portland, Oregon. There will be a reception with lots of ice cream following the service to continue the celebration of Austin's life and ministry.

"Austin was a true spiritual pioneer in every sense of the word," said the Rev. Elder Troy Perry. "Austin joined MCC during our very first year of existence." He served as one of the first pianists for UFMCC's Mother Church, MCC Los Angeles. In 1970, he traveled with five

others to San Francisco, where they founded MCC-SE.

The Rev. A. Austin Amerine served as the first full-time paid district coordinator in UFMCC. He was the founding pastor of MCC Portland, Emmanuel MCC (Spokane) and Overlake MCC (Bellevue). He was also directly responsible for starting MCC congregations in Salem, OR, Tri-Cities, WA, and Roseburg, OR.

Memorial gifts may be designated for the "A. Austin Amerine Retreat Center," and checks may be mailed to: 2261 Market St., #63, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Daniel L. Celeri
December 31, 1957 —
November 7, 1998



Daniel was peacefully born into his spiritual body, free of pain, sadness, and the hardships of life. He fought his illness with admirable courage and determination. Everyone fortunate

enough to meet Daniel was honestly transformed, if only for a moment — some of us for a lifetime.

Daniel was a member of Omote Senke School of Japanese Tea Ceremony, where the problems and distractions of everyday life were replaced by an appreciation of beauty, simplicity, and spiritual tranquility.

He loved dancing, drawing, and painting. His childlike smile and magical personality will be missed by many.

Daniel is survived by his lifetime companion Shizuo, his brother Jason, his nieces Lanice and Tasia, Danny N., Tom & Nancy L., Winnie, Kona, and many more friends.

We love and will miss you Daniel until our paths cross again. Now you truly have become a "Knight of the White Light."

A memorial will be held at St. Benedict's Parish (Pine & Octavia) on December 6 at 5 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Project Open Hand, St. Mary's Hospital, or the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Sung Han "Jack" Claypool
January 7, 1965 —
December 11, 1997



Born January 7, 1965, Incheon, Korea; died at Coming Home Hospice December 11, 1997. Partner of Patrick Aaron, San Francisco. Beloved son of Judy (Sol Cha) Claypool of Marina, California.

Jack came to California at the age of 10 with his mother from Korea, residing in Salinas and Sacramento before moving to San Francisco. His mother remembers him as an excellent student, hard worker, and a great help to her.

Jack enjoyed European travel, movies, music, and dining. His life with Patrick was happy and adventurous, and he adored San Francisco. His sensitive nature and artistic temperament were reflected in his work with art galleries, video technologies, and at Flo-ordesigns, a designer showroom.

Jack is sadly missed by his friends and co-workers who remember his patience, humor, and courage. His mother thinks of him every day, and will always love him with all her heart. He overcame many obstacles to live the life he wanted, winning the respect and love of those who knew and cared about him.

Gregory Conover



Gregory Conover passed away on Sunday, November 8, 1998 after a battle with lymphoma and bone marrow cancer, which he fought bravely and with pride.

Born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania, Greg moved to Chicago in 1987 to attend Loyola University to study communications. After graduating in 1991, Greg moved to San Francisco, which he came to consider his home. Greg worked in many areas of the gay community. He worked retail like no other, stirred it up working at

the Castro Street Station, helped many find homes working at Community Rentals, and was beginning a career in graphic arts with his own company, Visionary, Inc.

Greg Conover was a forward thinking person and an extremely supportive and kind friend. His warmth, humor, positivity and encouragement have touched many. Greg will be missed by his family and friends.

A memorial gathering will be held at 577 Duboce near Noe on Sunday, December 6 at 1 p.m. Please call David at (415) 553-4050 for additional information.

John Lamb
July 16, 1949 — September 26, 1998



John left us at 49 years of age in San Francisco after a long, courageous struggle over several years. He passed away at CPMC after a quick deterioration took its toll over a few days.

John was a very sharp wit, very entertaining, and he loved to indulge himself in the life stories of those around him. He was a good sport, playful and always smiles. In John's last few years, he was an inspiration with his love of life and his struggle to enjoy it and preserve it, as the sacred present it is to us all.

John's departure left a great void in the lives of those who knew and loved him. It was another devastating blow to his family, and a shock to his friends. John is survived by his loving parents, Ed and Valerie Lamb of Walnut Creek, his brother Ed, his longtime feline com-

panion Plug, and other close friends and relatives.

No memorial service has been scheduled to date and probably will not occur until after the holidays. If you wish to be notified of the service, or need additional information, please call (415) 626-0716 and leave a message in Steve's mailbox.

Adam Jay Prosper
December 16, 1957 —
November 23, 1998



Friends and family are welcome to attend a celebration of Adam's Wonderful Life on Saturday, December 5, 1998 at 1 p.m. at University Christian Church, 2401 Le Conte Ave., Berkeley. After-

wards, there will be a Dr.

Pepper/Chocolate "Bon Appetite" Bon Voyage Potluck at his Albany house.

For details or directions, call (510) 524-4569. RSVPs welcome.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Project Open Hand or your favorite AIDS organization.

Over the past few weeks, Adam had been "doin' it Maui style," came home for a "tan check," got his new BMW rims and his shower doors installed, and spent his last and most precious time at home, tired but in no pain, in the loving care of his most intimate friends and family continuing to micro-manage all the details until the end. He left a "happy camper" for a new adventure to "just another day in Paradise."

From Adam: "Mahalo a mui loa, and have a beautiful life."

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HIVCare is a non-profit,
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Jocking stuffer

by Jim Provenzano

Since it's nigh on Shopmas, and therefore time for some Yuletide log-rolling, "er, um" mini-reviewettes on some sports books available, just the thing for the jock homo on your mass consumerism list.

Boxing for Everyone,
by Cappie Kotz

Illustrated with amusing cartoons, photos and functional directions, Kotz, a longtime trainer, shares the basics of do-it-yourself defense. This phenom has been instituted into classes at Gorilla Sports, but if you'd like to try it at home, you can even get tips on hanging your own punching bag.

My Lead Dog Was a Lesbian:

Mushing across Alaska in the Iditarod, the world's most grueling race, by Brian Patrick O'Donoghue

Not really a gay book, in fact it's a bit...hmm, macho, but if you like to hear of dogs and men, dogs and men in snow, and no, they no longer wear tennis rackets as shoes - men on a long, arduous race up north, this is good winter cabin reading.

Strong Women, Deep Closets: Lesbians and Homophobia in Sport, by Pat Griffin

An in-depth survey and study of the levels of lesbophobia in college and other sports arenas around the country, Gay Games participants, and lesbian fan clubs of women's basketball. Packed with interviews of out and closeted women in a multitude of

sports, it's a passionate and thorough account of the battle for identity and tolerance in women's sports.

GirlJock: The Book

A 'zine comes of age. The collected best stuff edited by trendsetter Roxie includes essays like Lucy Jane Bledsoe's "How to Pick Up a Cyclist ... If you Like Lycra" and "An Inside Look at New Zealand Women's Rugby."

Jocks: True stories of America's gay male athletes,
by Dan Woog

Unlike the stock porno cover, these are real and compelling stories about athletes around America sharing their stories in and out in the locker room, written by the nationally published soccer coach and fellow gay sports writer.

The Perfectible Body: the Western Ideal of Male Physical Development, by Kenneth R. Dutton

Perfect for the deconstructivist on your list, this lengthy treatise on the shaping of muscles, body looks, and even body fascism includes lots of pictures of body-builders, gajillions of references and footnotes, and shots of those hot Italian statues which are pretty neat, even if they were commissioned by Mussolini.

World's Greatest Sports Brawls,
by John McGran

This short and funny book in-

cludes wacky pictures and quotes from macho pro jocks justifying their on-the-field hissy fits, plus odd mishaps and fan inanity, including a 1915 game in which fans responded to an ump tossing St. Louis Cardinal Art Butler

in an odd way: they threw about a hundred cucumbers onto the field.

Classics

Aquamarine,
by Carol Anshaw

Three variant possible lives based on one woman swimmer are subtly juxtaposed by the coulda-shoulda-woulda moment at an Olympic race, and it's potential fallout. What if she won, almost won, stayed straight, came out as a lesbian, or remained undecided?

The Front Runner trilogy,
by Patricia Nell-Warren

The mother of all sports novels, and the two following books on martyr Billy Sive's surviving son and his coach-lover Harlan. Warren will be at A Different Light on January 24 to celebrate her best-seller's 25th anniversary.

Sportsdykes,
by Susan Fox Rogers

A Whole Other Ballgame: Women's Literature and Women's Sport,
edited by Joli Sandoz

Essays by Victoria Brownworth, Nancy Boutilier, Kris Kovick, Pat Griffin, comics by

"GirlJock's" Joan Hilty and many others make this a great collection of diverse viewpoints on lesbians in sports.

For lesbian tennis fiction that isn't just about Martina, read "Courted" by Celia Cohen, or "Forty Love" by Diana Simmonds.

In the "Jeez, I hope they never make a TV movie about it" Department, *No Holds Barred: The Strange Life of John E. DuPont*, by Carol A. Turkington. This account of deluded murderer-millionaire DuPont and Olympic wrestler Dave Schultz's lives, and events that led to Schultz's murder, doesn't dodge the angle of DuPont being gay and a sexual predator to athletes. Creepy reading.

For the kids

Two favorite young adult sports novels about gay boys include Anne Snyder's basketball-themed *Counter Play* and Diana Wiener's teen hockey tale, *Bad Boy*. Both feature the 'Uh-oh, my best friend's gay' plot in a sweet G-rated way.

If you notice a dearth of male sports fiction, you're not alone. It's something I've been telling publishers and editors for years.

Mouth of the Amazon.com

And before you do your Shop-massing online with Amazon.com, and say how much you looove them, you might want to learn about one of their other products:

My Homosexual Cousin Just Adopted A Baby, by Bob Enyart
next page ►

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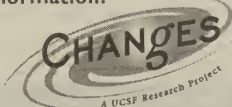
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- Must not have pulmonary KS.
- Must be stable on any antiretroviral therapy *excluding* experimental drugs.
- Payment provided for the first 8 weeks and for lesion biopsies.

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HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based clinical trial program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fundies

◀ page 1

say they can change if they tried, and the horrible crimes committed against gays and lesbians."

In addition to FRC, Katz's letter was sent to House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms, Coral Ridge Ministries, Donald Wildmon at the American Family Association, and the Christian Coalition. To date, Bauer is the only one who has responded to the letter.

Precious, not hateful

"This is a scurrilous and utterly unfounded charge," Bauer wrote. "There is no evidence that the thugs in Wyoming ever saw our ads, or were influenced by them in any way. If they had, they would have seen such statements as, 'We believe every human being is precious to God and is entitled to respect' and 'the truth that God loves them could just be the truth that sets them free.'"

"Supervisor Katz's assertion that our rhetoric is 'hateful' leads me to believe that she has never actually seen the ads or has concluded that any message restating traditional morality is 'hateful.' It is shameful to take the moral convictions and core morality that have sustained civilizations for

thousands of years and equate them with hatred and crimes committed against homosexuals," Bauer wrote.

Countered Katz, "They responded that we [supervisors] didn't understand their message. On the contrary, I saw every single one of their ads." She was referring to the series of full-page ads that ran in newspapers across the country earlier this year. The ads, one of which featured Green Bay Packers defensive player Reggie White, were paid for by groups including FRC, the Center for Reclaiming America, the Christian Coalition, and others. The ads claimed that gays and lesbians can change their sexual orientation.

Katz said she will not waiver from her position. "It's irresponsible on his part for him to disseminate this kind of rhetoric," Katz said. "He completely missed the point. The message he's sending is that LGBT people are something less."

Bauer also wrote, "Your own health department repeatedly has cautioned young homosexuals to change their behavior and to avoid dangerous practices. Is it 'hateful' for you to suggest that perhaps homosexuals (and heterosexuals) do not have an infinite right to engage in certain behaviors regardless of the cost to themselves and their families and communities?"

"Despite the denials by gay activists, this immutable fact remains: many people have overcome homosexuality. Shouldn't they have that choice?"

"Considering the terrible toll that AIDS has had on your city as a result of dangerous and promiscuous behavior, you should be applauding — not condemning — those of us who offer hope to people who desire to leave the homosexual lifestyle," continued Bauer. "I believe you owe us an apology for your reckless rhetoric and reckless disregard of the truth. At the least, you should schedule a time when we can discuss these serious charges."

Katz said there's a big difference between people changing their behavior and changing their orientation but again, she emphasized that Bauer and other conservatives create a climate of hate with their rhetoric. "He's the one who needs to be educated," Katz said.

Bauer concluded with offering to have Robert Knight, FRC's director of cultural studies, and Yvette Cantu, cultural studies analyst, come to San Francisco to meet with the supervisors.

FRC's media spokeswoman did not return B.A.R. phone calls at press time.

NGLTF report

A new report, *Calculated Compassion: How the Ex-gay Move-*

ment Serves the Right's Attack on Democracy has just been issued by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Policy Research Associates, and Equal Partners in Faith that disputes Bauer's statement and the ad's contention that people can overcome homosexuality.

The booklet is a comprehensive examination of the political character and role of the "ex-gay" movement, which was highly touted in the Christian right's ad campaign.

"While publicly portraying itself as a haven for 'hope and healing for homosexuals,' the ex-gay movement serves as camouflage for a retooled and reinvigorated assault by the Christian right on the legal protections against discrimination for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons," the report stated. "Furthermore, the ex-gay movement is an integral part of a broader right wing movement that poses a grave threat to democracy and diversity in the U.S."

Based on three years of research, from 1995-98, *Calculated Compassion* reports that:

- Most mainstream religious leaders and religious organizations in the U.S. do not share the views of the ex-gay movement and the Christian right;

- The ex-gay movement provides political cover for a significant new phase in the Christian

right's long-running anti-gay campaign;

- The ex-gay movement is a tool for undermining the rationale for LGBT rights; and

- The ex-gay movement is part of a broader social and political movement that is authoritarian and anti-democratic.

"Tolerance and pluralism are bedrock principles of American society," stated the report's executive summary. "Yet, as this report shows, the ex-gay movement and the Christian right are attacking these principles and furthering a divisive political agenda which offers fundamentalist Christian dogma and heterosexuality as the only acceptable norms."

"Challenging the leadership of the ex-gay movement is essential if equal rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation, are to be defended."

The report stated that by re-framing its attack on homosexuality in kinder, gentler terms, the Christian right is putting forth a softer face that cloaks a hard line agenda that includes rolling back lesbian and gay civil rights, enforcing criminal laws against LGBT people, and promoting a broader theocratic agenda based on a literal interpretation of biblical scripture.

"The ex-gay movement lends political cover to the right's hostile political campaign against LGBT people," stated the report. ▼

Teacher

◀ page 1

from behind. Morales asked him "What do you want?" and "Do you have a problem?" Then the older man pushed Morales toward a curb, pulled out his handcuffs and his two-way radio, forcing Morales to the ground.

TV exposure, job loss

The older man identified himself as Officer Ron Bridges by pulling out his badge, then handcuffed Morales and forcefully pushed him several times.

A white van then pulled up and a man jumped out with a video camera and began to film the arrest. Morales verbally protested the filming but was told by Bridges that the cameraman "had every right to be there videotaping his arrest," the complaint further alleges.

Morales noticed an anchorperson from local Fresno cable channel 47 seated in the front seat of the van observing the arrest.

The officers cited Morales for violating California Penal Code section 647, loitering near a pub-

lic toilet for the purpose of engaging in or soliciting a lewd, lascivious, or unlawful act, even though no crime was committed, according to Wotman's office.

As a result of the arrest Morales was immediately suspended from his job as a school teacher and was subsequently terminated by the Clovis Unified School District.

"The police appear to be engaging in an illegal policy of arresting gay men" said attorney Wotman, "for doing nothing more than meeting and speaking with other men in the park."

"It is perfectly legal for two gay men to meet in a park, just as it is legal for a man and a woman to meet in a singles bar or a grocery store," Wotman continued.

The charges against Morales were dropped December 3, 1997, as the district attorney concluded there was "no evidence of commission of a public lewd act or the intent to commit one."

Climate of fear

Police Chief Ed Winchester is also named in the lawsuit against the city of Fresno and is being sued for providing training, su-

pervision, instruction, oversight and discipline concerning the policies and practices of the Fresno Police Department.

"The apparent goal of this policy and the policy of allowing a television news camera," said attorney Geoffrey Kors, "is to harass gay men and discourage them from meeting one another in public places."

"Our Constitution clearly forbids any government from telling people where and when they can meet one another."

"It is a blatant violation of the Constitution for the police to target any group in order to harass them and attempt to prevent them from freely associating. It is even more offensive when they falsely arrest individuals in the presence of the media, in what is apparently a deliberate attempt to create a climate of fear among gay men in Fresno," Kors concluded.

The lawsuit seeks to award Morales for all damages incurred by the arrest and filming of the incident at Roeding Park, and to prevent gay and bisexual men from being targeted by the Fresno police for any purpose, especially the right to free association. ▼

Amerine

◀ page 3

Tri-Cities, Washington. England said when Amerine left the Bay Area and moved to Portland to start a church, it was the third attempt. "We had tried a couple of times to plant a church; his was enormously successful," England told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Amerine, who was born December 26, 1921 in Tulsa Oklahoma, is survived by his daughter, Dorothy and son Robert; several

nieces and nephews; grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

A memorial service will be held this Saturday, December 5 at 2 p.m. at MCC-Portland.

Memorial gifts may be designated for the "A. Austin Amerine Retreat Center," which is an official program of the northwest district that several of Amerine's friends are working on as a place where MCC members and staff can gather during conferences. Checks may be mailed to: 2261 Market Street #63, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

"Michael Galluccio, the homosexual featured on ABC's *Good Morning America*, *Larry King*, and in *USA Today*, whom the ACLU helped to adopt a child, is my first cousin. He won this battle but I will not give up. Michael's homosexuality has brought much heartache to our family. Now, we will grieve anew because we know this ruling will further the destructive influence that homosexuals have on children." <http://www.enyart.com/books/amazon.html>

Note from Amazon.com in early November:

"Amazon.com is pleased to have Bob Enyart Live in the family of Amazon.com associates. We've agreed to ship products and provide customer service for orders we receive through special links on Enyart.com. Amazon.com associ-

ates list selected books and music in an editorial context that helps you make the right choice. We encourage you to visit Enyart.com often to see what new items they've selected for you.

"Thank you for shopping with an Amazon.com associate.

"Sincerely, Jeff Bezos, President Amazon.com."

Now, after a flurry of e-mails, Bozo, er Bezos, apologized and attempted to disassociate himself from this guy, whose books he still sells.

Of course, Amazon.com also features terrific reviews of queer books by Michael Bronski, among other great writers, so it's a quandary, a freedom of speech issue. But to sell anti-gay books bugs me. It should bug you, too.

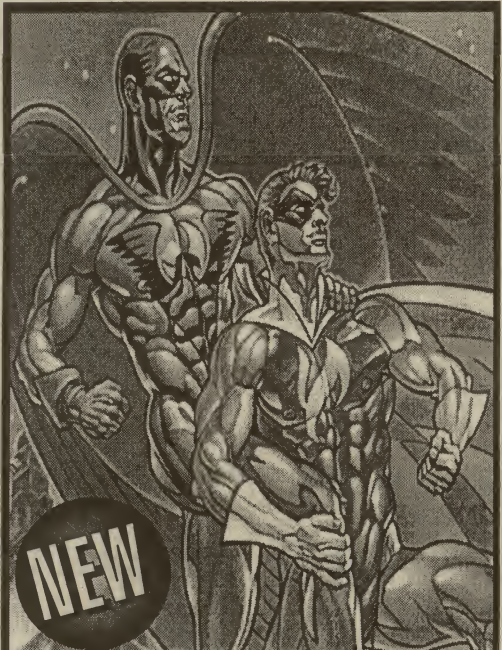
I suggest you buy locally, from an independent bookseller like A Different Light, Modern Times, or Boadecia's. You won't find any hate books on their shelves, virtual or wooden. ▼

Spoon, Feds!

The next Team SF meeting will include elections of new Team SF Board members and reports from the Federation of Gay Games post-Amsterdam meeting.

It will all take place this Saturday, December 5 at 3 p.m. in the downstairs dance studio at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, located at 100 Collingwood at 18th Street in the Castro.

Inside gossip says the Dutch reps have so far been apologetic, unprepared (with only 5 out of 29-doubeplus sports reports complete), yet had time to trash yours truly twice! I'm so honored. ▼



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Shepard suspects plead not guilty

United Press International

Two men accused of killing gay Wyoming student Matthew Shepard pleaded not guilty Wednesday, December 2 to charges of first degree murder and kidnapping in a savage attack that sparked worldwide outrage.

Prosecutors did not say whether they'll seek to execute Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson, and were given until December 31 to announce their decision. A trial date will not be set until after a December 10 motions hearing.

A spokeswoman for the district attorney said McKinney's lawyer also made an oral motion that Judge Jeffrey Donnell recuse himself from the case, but did not specify why.

Donnell deferred setting a trial date until sometime after a closed motions hearing on December 10. The judge is expected then to determine whether McKinney and Henderson will be tried separately or together.

Heavy news coverage of the October 7 attack in Laramie, where Shepard attended the University of Wyoming, has also raised the prospect of a change of venue but that matter did not come up at Wednesday's hearings.

Prosecutor Cal Rerucha said at a preliminary hearing last month that McKinney and Henderson beat Shepard, lashed him to a fence and sought to find out where he lived so they could burglarize his home.

But police say it was Shepard's sexual orientation that drove McKinney and Henderson to lure the diminutive 21-year-old out of a Laramie bar, then pistol-whip him into a coma.

Eighteen hours later, a passing bicyclist who first thought Shepard was a scarecrow put on the fence as a Halloween prank soon realized that he had come across the victim of a hideous crime.

Shepard was rushed to Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he died October 12.

His death triggered more outrage from an already furious gay community. It also drew demonstrators at his funeral who denounced homosexuality and according to a protester's sign claimed the right to hate. ▼

Gospel of Mark

◀ page 23

its 25th year of service to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Catholics, is a faith community that celebrates sexuality and love as gifts of God. Organizers said the church is proud to sponsor Reardon and Lane and their performance of *The Gospel According to Mark*, and invites everyone to a reception with the artists following the performance. ▼

The performance begins at 7 p.m. at Dignity/San Francisco, 1329 7th Avenue at Irving. Tickets are \$10 and may be reserved by calling (415) 681-2491.

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CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSI- NESS NAME FILE NO. 209654

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: OffRamp Leathers, 97 Duboce Ave., SF., CA 94103. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on 11/27/1996. This business was conducted by a individual signed John Oris Bernal, 3rd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco county on 11/27/98.

NOV. 12, 19, 26, DEC 3, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 226779

The following person(s) are doing business as OffRamp Leathers, 97 Duboce Ave., SF., CA 94103. This business is conducted

by co-partners John O. Bernal 3rd, Paul T. Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 10/01/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/06/98.
NOV. 12, 19, 26, DEC 3, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 226577

The following person(s) are doing business as Rix Trux, 1525 Galvez Ave., SF. 94124. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Rezzo Springer, President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 10/01/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/06/98.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

LEGAL NOTICES

NOV. 12, 19, 26, DEC 3, 1998

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO: FILE NO. 999103
In the Matter of the Application of Sandra
J. Krummell, For Change of Name. The
application of Sandra J. Krummell for
change of name, having been filed in
Court, and it appearing from said applica-
tion that Sandra J. Krummell has filed an
application proposing that her name be
changed to Alexandra J. Abrams. Now,

therefore, it is hereby ordered and direct-
ed, that all persons interested in said mat-
ter do appear before this Court in Depart-
ment X-4 on the 17th day of December
1998, at 9:00 o'clock AM., of said day to
show cause why the application for change
of name should not be granted.
NOV. 19, 25 DEC 3, 10, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 226831

The following person(s) are doing business
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LEGAL NOTICES

Lembi, President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/10/98. **NOV. 19, 25, DEC 3, 10 1998**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO. 271208 NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

Of Horst Hans Grahlmann. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Horst Hans Grahlmann. The petition for probate has been filed by William T. Brown in the Superior Court of California County of San Francisco. The petition for probate requests that William T. Brown be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on 12/7/98 at 9:00am Dept 13 Rm 204 at the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco 400 McAllister St SF, CA 94102. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100, the time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court, if you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate code section 1250. A request for special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner Mr. Paul H. Melbostad 100 Van Ness Avenue, 21st Floor San Francisco CA 94102 (415) 621-5600. **NOV 19, 25, DEC 3, 10, 1998**

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LEGAL NOTICES

CNS 1662520

City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Qualifications #145

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek qualifications from individuals and organizations interested in contracting as the community outreach coordinator of the Ruth E. Smith Foster Care Demonstration Project.

The contractor will provide \$50,000 over the period from 3/1/99 to 2/28/00. This contract may be renewed depending on performance of contractor.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor beginning 12/1/98. Office hours are from 8 am to 5 pm.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on 12/14/98 at 1pm at 170 Otis, 8th Floor, SF, CA. For further information, call John Tsutakawa at (415) 557-5680. Due date for responses is 1/4/99 at 1:00pm.

appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100, the time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court, if you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate code section 1250. A request for special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner Mr. Paul H. Melbostad 100 Van Ness Avenue, 21st Floor San Francisco CA 94102 (415) 621-5600. **NOV 19, 25, DEC 3, 10, 1998**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 226918

The following person(s) are doing business as Slaton 15 Hartford St. San Francisco, CA 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Phillip Brooks Slaton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/16/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/16/98. **NOV. 25, DEC 3, 10, 17, 1998**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227031

The following person(s) are doing business as Old Krakow 385 West Portal Ave, San Francisco, CA 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tulik Krystyna. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/19/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/19/98. **NOV. 25, DEC 3, 10, 17, 1998**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227019

The following person(s) are doing business as Frisco Erectors 1265 Van Dyke Ave

CNS 1662528

City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services Request for Qualifications #144

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek proposals from organizations interested in contracting to provide contract evaluation tools, methodology and services for supportive housing programs.

An amount not to exceed \$65,000 will be made available for a five-minute period beginning February 1, 1999.

An RFP packet may be picked up at the SFDHS Office of Contract Compliance, 170 Otis Street, 8th Floor, beginning November 30, 1998. Office hours are from 8:00am to 5:00pm. For a mailed copy contact David Rees at 557-5585. Proposals are due 12/29/99 at 2:00pm. NO EXCEPTIONS. Faxes are not accepted.

Questions regarding the RFP may be directed to David Rees, Senior Contract Manager, at 415-557-5585.

San Francisco, CA 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Murillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/19/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/19/98. **NOV. 25, DEC 3, 10, 17, 1998**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 226968

The following person(s) are doing business as Jeff Whitehead Lutherie 1617 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jeffrey A. Whitehead. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/17/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/17/98. **NOV. 25, DEC 3, 10, 17, 1998**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE.
To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: Tulik Krystyna.

The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 385 W Portal Ave San Francisco CA 94127. For the following type of License: **41 ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE**
DECEMBER 3, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227004

The following person(s) are doing business as Spencer/Hire 168 19th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elizabeth S. Franklin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/18/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/18/98. **NOV. 25, DEC 3, 10, 17, 1998**



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NOTICES

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SF Opera gets its 'Betrothal'

If you go to only one monk-filled Russian comic opera this season, here's the one.

page 49

Deconstructing Scrooge

Danny Scheie's queer take on 'A Christmas Carol.'

page 46



Scandalous her

Jacqueline Susann biopic comes to cable TV.

page 47

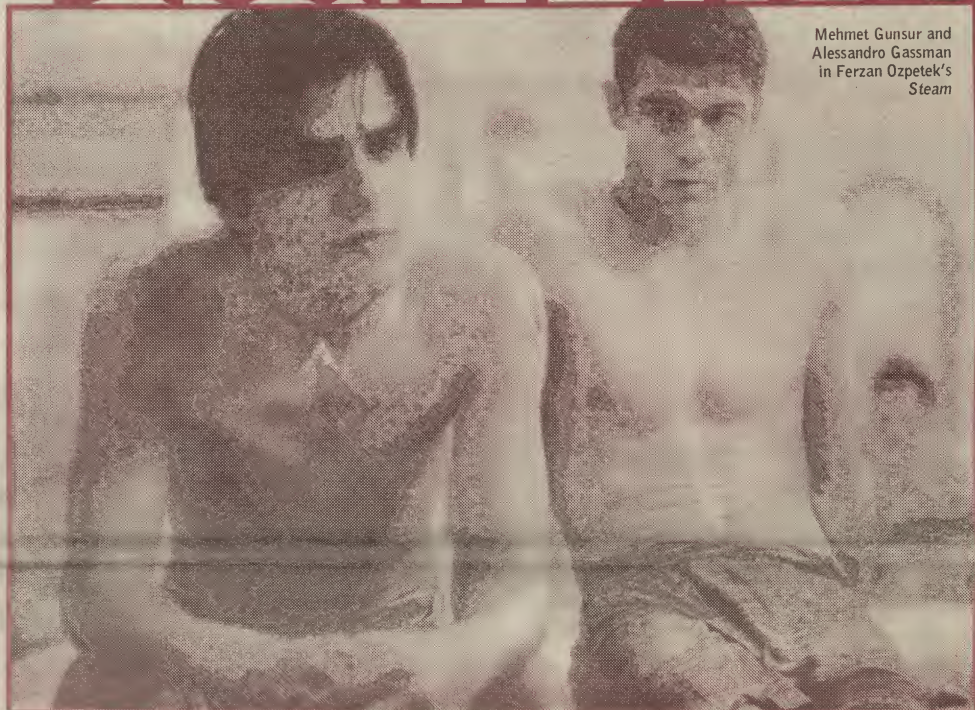


BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 28 • No. 49 • 3 December 1998

'Steam' heat



Mehmet Gunsur and Alessandro Gassman in Ferzan Ozpetek's *Steam*

Ferzan Ozpetek's Turkish bath

by Chris Culwell

In recent years, filmgoers in the U.S. have witnessed an increasing number of films from such countries as Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Israel, and elsewhere in the Middle East, films whose themes go against the grain of the often repressive cultures that have produced them. This libertine wave, while it may only reflect the emergence in these countries of a new class of sophisticated cineastes, is reassuring, for it puts a human face on societies that have long been demonized in the U.S. by Christian zealotry, arrogant politicians, and a jingoistic media.

The latest film to offer evidence that there's real life in these parts of the world is the Turkish/Italian production *Steam*, written and directed by Ferzan Ozpetek. *Steam* was nominated for the 1998 Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, but was pulled at the last minute by Turkey's Ministry of Culture, purportedly because of its gay content. The film is hardly a milestone as art or sexual politics, but its characters are not the usual suspects, and the film's concerns manage to be uniquely universal at a time when most filmmakers are obsessed with navel-gazing.

page 40 ►

Crack those nuts yourself!

SFLG Freedom Band offers 'Dance-Along Nutcracker'

by Aimée Ts'ao

Whether you love the holidays, get stressed out by them, or cynically attempt to ignore them, there's one event everyone (absolutely no exceptions) can enjoy. Wish that you could carry over a bit of the zaniness from Halloween San Francisco-style into the Saturnalia season? Always wanted to do drag in pointe shoes à la Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo? Here's your chance! It's the *Dance-Along Nutcracker*, presented by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, conducted by Jadine Louie, who said, "It's just like it sounds, only it's for real. Try it, you'll like it."

Inspired by the *Sing-It-Yourself-Messiah*, Wayne Fleisher, at that time director of the San Francisco Tap Troupe, mounted the first *Dance-Along Nutcracker* in 1985 at the Gift Center Pavilion with the SFLG Freedom Band under the baton of Jay Kast. Since then, the show has evolved from a formal black-tie event with limited opportunities for audience participation to a fully integrated extravaganza of professional performers leading the audience on to new heights.

Doug Litwin, a clarinetist with the Band since 1985, has played in all ten previous performances and said, "It's an organic event; it's never the same twice." So much for those carved-in-stone traditional *Nutcrackers*. And Litwin added, "It's a riot. There's so much creative energy, not just the audience dancing, but the musicians are trying to do something new and different, too."

Litwin's favorite production, in 1988, was a take-off on *I Love Lucy* called *A Night at the*

page 51 ►



Conductor Jadine Louie and Vu Sister Carolyn Carvajal get ready for the 1998 *Dance-Along Nutcracker*.

Billy Green

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

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by Roberto Friedman
and the London Broil

While we were gone last week, a graffiti artist greatly improved the backside of a billboard which graces our office view. The tagger had to have got up on top of one of the buses in the busyard abutting us, and jumped from there. But then, determination is part of being an artist, isn't it? Take the ever-enterprising types at the Billboard Liberation Front, or whoever was responsible for recently amending a toy store billboard in the Mission to include an obscene gesture directed up the skirt of doll-for-the-ages Barbie.

Or take Aubrey Beardsley, the artist who late in the 19th-century created wonderfully obscene erotica like his illustrations for Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* peopled by walking penises larger than their owners, currently hanging in a Beardsley exhibit on the walls of the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. One measure of how British culture is further evolved than ours is that there are no attendant warning labels on the wall, full of fear and control lest children see phalli. In fact, while we were in the exhibit, several schoolgroups wandered through at their own pace, taking notes and sketching, and giggling like the schoolboys they are.

We were in London not only to observe local flora and fauna, but to take in as much cultchuh as we possibly could before returning to the provinces. Art cultchuh and fag cultchuh: what a brief!

Immediately upon meeting our greeter at Gatwick, it was as if we were transported into an episode of *Are You Being Served?* The airport man who so much resembled Mr. Humphries nodded and winked to his cohort when we



Illustration for Oscar Wilde's *Salome* by Aubrey Beardsley

told him where we were from: "Oh fabulous isn't it, San Francisco."

We trotted through the Art by day, popping in and out of the Tube. By night we attended the theatre or the symphony, then crawled Soho, a name which comes, appropriately, from hunting cries: "So- ho!" All the boys in Soho have the same two haircuts: the all-around Soho short-cut, maybe with a Tintin flip up front, and the Al Pacino Scarface. But if you like Anglo-Saxons, and we do, you won't mind. This, in our experience, is the understated, deeply-reserved Britisher's favorite opening line: "Fancy a fuck?"

We attended the production of Tom Stoppard's terrific new play at the Royal Haymarket, *The Invention of Love*, about the Victorian scholar and poet A.E. Housman and his lifetime of desire for his own sex. At one point Housman's friend Chamberlain tells him he has joined a discussion group: "We discuss what we should call ourselves. 'Homosex-

uals' has been suggested.

"AEH: Homosexuals?"

"Chamberlain: We aren't anything until there's a word for it."

"AEH: Homosexuals? Who is responsible for this barbarity?"

"Chamberlain: What's wrong with it?"

"AEH: It's half Greek and half Latin!"

"Chamberlain: That sounds about right."

We found it easy to get around — Muni nightmares were a mil-

lion miles away. London counts its taxi drivers in the tens of thousands, so there's always a cab around when you need one, and they all come in tasteful (if boxy) basic black. In fact, the British consider yellow cabs garish and migraine-inducing. Of course, in a pinch there's always a quick pop down the Tube, where we never tired of hearing the recorded announcement admonishing us to "Mind the gap!" That would be "Watch your step," but as Oscar Wilde once observed, by now

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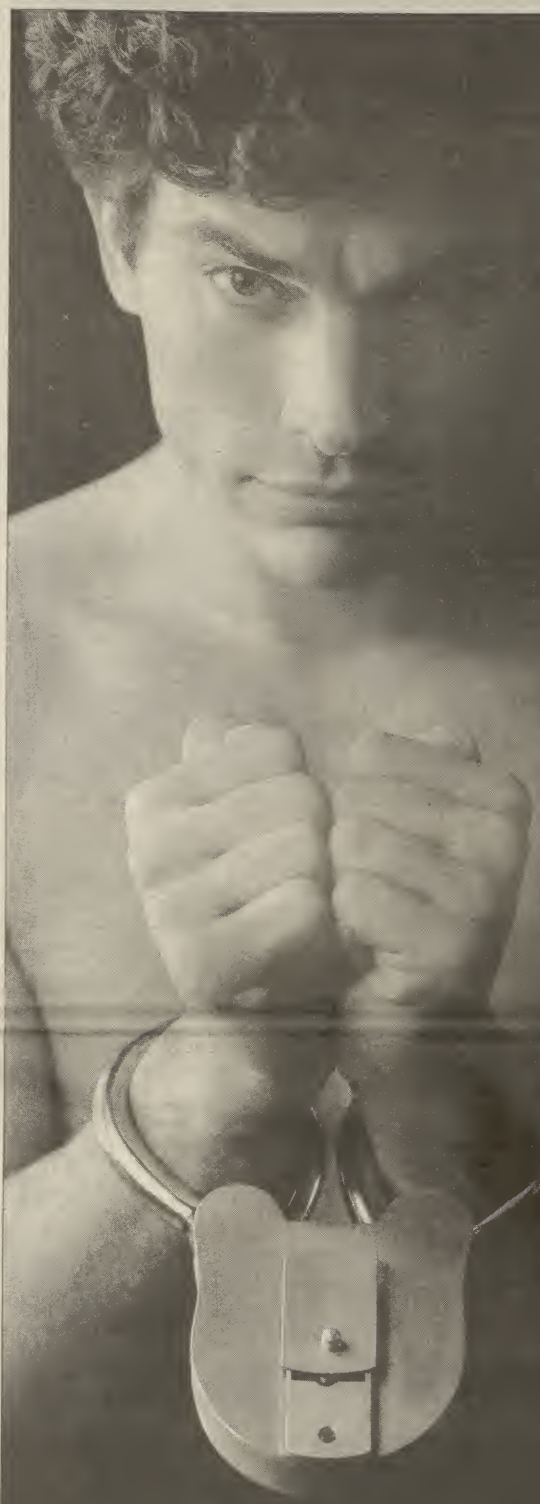
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Classic corn

42nd St. Moon's 'Call Me Madam' at New Conservatory Theatre

by Richard Dodds

As *Call Me Madam* closes out 42nd Street Moon's current season with local favorite Meg Mackay, comes the news that New York cabaret star Andrea Marcovici and Broadway veteran Susan Watson will be part of the 1999 season of "lost musicals." (See below for details.) It's an exciting step for the company that offers staged concert productions of seldom-seen shows that can satisfy the curiosity of Broadway aficionados and provide more ca-

sual theater-goers with the pleasures of bygone musical comedy styles.

Call Me Madam fulfills both bills, with an easy-on-the-ear score by Irving Berlin, a book of sweet corn by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, and a production brightly directed by Greg MacKellan that gives a pretty good idea of what audiences first saw in 1950. Of course, there is no way to recreate Ethel Merman, for whom the musical was expressly tailored, and Mackay doesn't try.

Looking a lot like Anne Jeffreys from the old *Topper* series, Mack-

ay takes a classier approach to the role of Sally Adams, a plain-speaking Washington hostess who is made ambassador to the tiny country of Lichtenburg. Despite her breeches of protocol and diplomatic indelicacies, the tradition-bound people are eventually charmed by the sheer force of her unpretentious Americanness.

The musical was inspired by President Truman's appointment of society matron Perle Mesta as ambassador to Luxembourg, and the script is dotted with topical political references that were guaranteed to quickly date. Even

so, the satirical edge still isn't very sharp, with a few broadsides aimed at Sen. Joe McCarthy, some by-the-numbers battles between the Republicans and Democrats, and a mild swipe at the American obsession with money.

Berlin's score is filled with charmers that musical director

way." It has tagged its coming season as "A Century of Musicals," with representation from six decades of the 20th century. Discounted season tickets are now on sale.

Fiorello! (March 11-April 4) will represent the '50s with the Jerry Brock-Sheldon Harnick musical about New York mayor

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Arwen Anderson, Meg Mackay, and Greg Grabow in *Call Me Madam*.

David Dobrusky and the cast bring to enjoyable life, often accompanied by playful choreography by Jayne Zaban. "Hostess With the Mostes," "The Best Thing for You," and "You're Just in Love" are some of the more familiar songs that Mackay helps put across.

Though the musical was crafted as a Merman vehicle, several other roles provide impression-making opportunities. Jon DiSavino gently and effectively handles the role of the Lichtenburg prime minister, who becomes Sally's love interest. The juvenile love story is nicely delivered by Greg Grabow as a young embassy bureaucrat and Arwen Anderson as the quirky princess of Lichtenburg.

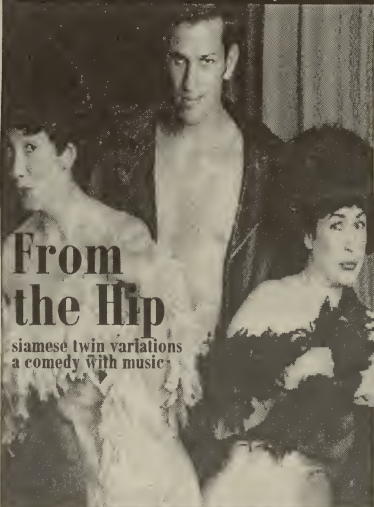
Coming attractions

Call Me Madam completes the season that 42nd Street Moon billed as the "Delicious Dames of Broad-

Fiorello La Guardia. From the '20s comes *Sitting Pretty* (Aug. 5-22), one of the legendary Princess Theatre musicals by Jerome Kern and P.G. Wodehouse. Andrea Marcovici will star in the '60s musical *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* (Sept. 9-12) by Alan Jay Lerner and Burton Lane. Cole Porter's *Let's Face It* (Sept. 30-Oct. 17) made a star of Danny Kaye in 1941. Susan Watson, seen on Broadway in *No, No, Nanette* and *Bye, Bye Birdie*, will head the cast of *The Grass Harp*, a short-lived '70s musical based on a story by Truman Capote. The season will close with *Babes in Arms* (Nov. 26-Jan. 2, 2000), Rodgers and Hart's 1937 "let's-put-on-a-show" musical. ▼

Call Me Madam will run at New Conservatory Theatre Center through Dec. 20. Tickets are \$18.50 and \$20. Call 861-8972.

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'Christmas' pageant



Don't even think about bringing a wire hanger. Artfull Circle Theatre's cult musical comedy *Christmas with the Crawfords* is wowing them at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter St., through January 9. *Crawfords* was created by Richard Winchester, written by Wayne Buidens and Mark Sargent, and has been restaged for this production by Danny Scheie. The spectacle stars Michael Cameron Brenbrook as Joan Crawford, Matthew Martin as Bette Davis, David Bica as Bing Crosby, and a host of others, including, as the Andrews sisters (pictured here), Trauma Flintstone as Patty, Mark Sargent as Laverne, and Flynn DeMarco as Maxene. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Wed.-Sat. and 10 p.m. Fri. & Sat. Tickets are \$15-20. For reservations, call 621-5455. ▼

THEATRE

Palpable appeal

Puppy love pleasures in 'Beautiful Thing'

by Richard Dodds

Pardon the redundancy, but *Beautiful Thing* is a beautiful thing. This charming play, to indulge in one more repetition, is receiving a charming production at the New Conservatory Theatre, providing the Pride Season with perhaps its finest effort in a four-year history.

Jonathan Harvey's play about first love for a pair of gay teens became a mainstream hit in London four years ago, but its availability to theaters in this country was restricted until the film version had been released. San Francisco is one of the first cities outside London to see the play, which won't arrive in New York until February, though it soon should start popping up everywhere. It's hard to resist.

Harvey has found a way to combine a slice-of-life grittiness with a sunny disposition that can leave audiences smiling but not feeling sugar-coated. The setting is a low-income housing project in South London where the front walkway provides a sometimes stormy meeting ground for members of three resident families. But even in the battles, we can see the better side of human nature emerge, albeit at times reluctantly.

What is often setting off these battles and their tender resolutions is adolescent angst. Jamie, 15, lives with his single mom, who's trying to understand her diffident son while still finding time for her own younger live-in lover. The athletic Ste, 16, lives next door with his abusive father, whom we never see, but whose outbursts drive the two boys together in a way that changes everyone's lives. Providing a bitchy and sometimes poignant comic relief is fellow-neighbor Leah, a rudderless high-school dropout whose fascination with



Nathan Wheeler (left) and James Marks in *Beautiful Thing*.

Mama Cass can be both amusing and disturbing.

Director Ed Decker's production expertly captures the quickly changing tones of the play, and it's hard to detect a false note (or even a false accent) from the talented cast. Nate Wheeler and James Marks, as Jamie and Ste, make believable their characters' youthful emotions and fears, and do so with a palpable appeal. Patricia Miller is right on target as Jamie's brassy mother, who tries to balance maternal duty with an active libido. As the man currently in her life, Andrew Nance creates a humorous portrait of a well-meaning fellow who usually stumbles in his efforts to be cool. Linda Chavez Lagunas makes her own the role of Leah, the wise but often wasted Mama Cass fan.

The bubble-gum sounds of Mama Cass provide the quirky underscoring for this play, subtitled "an urban fairy tale." The story can indeed provoke an element of fantasy for members of

the audience, many of whom would probably like to revisit their first time with the innocence and passion of Jamie and Ste. It may be an idealized version of puppy love, and we have no idea what will become of these characters, but for the moment at least, all is right with the world. ▼

Beautiful Thing, an urban fairy tale will run at the New Conservatory Theatre through Jan. 2. Tickets are \$16 and \$20. Call 861-8972.

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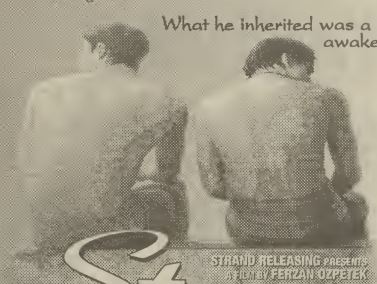
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Delving into the down and dirty

Nick Broomfield retrospective at the Roxie

by John Blanco

With his style and content informed by super-market scandal rags and TV infotainment shows, director Nick Broomfield's documentaries on Aileen Wuornos, Heidi Fleiss and Courtney Love have made him the '90s' premier tabloid filmmaker. While his films are almost always effective, and in the case of the Wuornos documentary even wrenching, there's no denying that Broomfield loves to

wallow in sleaze. He shoots his films with the taste and restraint of a cameraman for *Cops*, never failing to zoom in on his subjects' most humiliating moments. And far from being a silent, objective documentarian, Broomfield uses any excuse to thrust himself and his opinions into his films.

But as the Roxie's well-chosen retrospective of his work makes clear, Broomfield's films weren't always so sensationalistic. Early in his career, the British director was a disciple of D.A. Pennebaker (*Don't Look Back*), the Maysles brothers (*Grey Gardens*), and other practitioners of American direct cinema, a style aligned with

gins filming the clashes of personality and artistic vision that ensue between himself and the film's writer and producer. He also films the auditions-to-opening-night progress of the musical, but in the end, the entertaining *Driving Me Crazy* is more about Broomfield's struggle to realize his vision as a filmmaker than it is about the *Body and Soul* crew's struggle to put on a show.

Obstacle race

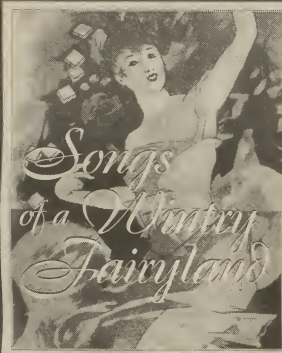
Nearly every documentary Broomfield has made since *Driving Me Crazy* has dealt with the obstacles he faced during filming. It's been said that Broomfield

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Filmmaker Nick Broomfield

the French cinema verité. The director's early films have no talking heads, no narration and, most significantly, no camera-hogging Broomfield to distract our attention from the real-life drama.

Broomfield's *Tattooed Tears*, a 1981 exposé of the California Youth Authority Prison, and *Soldier Girls*, a 1983 film chronicling female recruits in basic training, are documentaries that succeed on the strength of their images alone. These images are often harrowing, especially in *Tattooed Tears*, where a motto uttered early in the film by a head correctional officer ("The primary concern of the Youth Training School is not rehabilitation... they are here for punishment of the crime") serves as a red flag for the abuse we are about to witness. The gritty content of both films is well-matched by their grainy, rough-hewn look.

With 1989's *Driving Me Crazy*, we see a major stylistic shift in Broomfield's work. This film was planned as a behind-the-scenes look at the mounting of a musical revue called *Body and Soul*, but early in the shoot the producers decide they want fictionalized characters and situations added to the documentary. Immediately recognizing this as a half-assed concept, Broomfield instead be-

leaves in what other documentary filmmakers are trained to take out: worries about the budget, squabbles with producers, and negotiations for interviews. The latter has become one of the most controversial elements of Broomfield's films. Not only does the director admit to paying for interviews, but he often films his subjects greedily counting up their cash. (Watching the geriatric Madam Alex squealing, "My green! My green!" while counting her loot is one of the highlights of Broomfield's 1996 film, *Heidi Fleiss: Hollywood Madam*.)

The director's willingness to shell out between one hundred and several thousand dollars for an interview has only fueled his tabloid reputation. As has Broomfield's interviewing technique, which often resembles a surprise attack. The director is known for arriving for an interview unannounced and with his camera rolling. Broomfield's goal is to garner more honest, unrehearsed responses, but these ambush interviews can just as easily make his subjects guarded and skittish.

As questionable as some of Broomfield's *Hard Copy* tactics are, no one would dispute that his flair for sensationalism is

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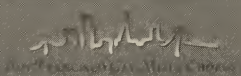
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Steam

◀ Arts cover

At the center of *Steam* is Francesco (Alessandro Gassman), a prosperous "designer" in his early 30s who lives in Rome with Marta (Francesca d'Aloja), an icy, high-strung brunette who also dabbles in the design industry. Though they were once passionately in love, their relationship is now on the rocks. When Francesco's estranged aunt in Istanbul suddenly dies, leaving him a piece of property that he must attend to, it's not a moment too soon.

He travels to Istanbul with the intention of selling the land, but when Francesco meets the family that lived and cared for his aunt, his resolve crumbles. His thaw is hastened immeasurably by meeting the caretaker's hunky son, Mehmet (Mehmet Gunsur), a doe-eyed, barely legal beauty who keeps throwing provocative, come-hither stares at Francesco. It's not long before these two are the best of buddies, chewing the fat until dawn, tooling around town in an old car, and getting friendly in the preternatural clamminess of old auntie's broken-down "hamam," a steam bath the old woman operated out of the back of her house for the benefit of certain local males.

Trunk show

Francesco is initially mystified by the steam bath, especially its presence in his aunt's abode, but when he discovers her old diaries in a trunk and begins reading them, he encounters a heretofore unknown sensual side to the woman that gives him the inspiration to change his life.

Alessandro Gassman (left) and Mehmet Gunsur in *Steam*.

Francesco decides to stay with Mehmet in Istanbul and fix up his aunt's house and its hamam.

The gay content in *Steam* is minimal. We see Francesco and Mehmet kiss only once, and the two barely show any sort of intimacy or emotional bond. When Francesco fesses up to Marta about what he's been doing in Istanbul for weeks on end, the word, or whatever its Turkish equivalent (if there is one), is never mentioned, their interaction recognizing only that Francesco has been unfaithful "with a man, not a woman." However belittling this might seem to American lesbians and gays and their enlightened friends, one can't help but feel that Ozpetek is taking significant steps away from his culture's long-standing prohibitions on sexual freedom.

For the most part, *Steam* has a winningly lyrical style well-suited to its story, but for some reason Ozpetek begins mucking around with subtext halfway through, presumably to make his lightweight film seem heftier. The biggest distraction he entertains involves some sleazy developers who want to buy Francesco's property, along with everything else in his aunt's neighborhood, so they can build a strip mall. The idea of old Istanbul being transformed too rapidly by new money is apparently a very real concern, and its place in this film about a man who must recognize the need for change in his life is a good idea, only Ozpetek gets the tone all wrong, turning the developer types into oily crawlers who

make us cringe and giggle whenever they appear. The effect cheapens the film, but worse, it casts a confusing cloud over Francesco's actions: Is Ozpetek saying that Francesco's sexual awakening is part of the New Riff Raff ruining Istanbul, or is he saying that brave, sensual Francesco is part of the old world that's getting washed away?

Steam works best when Ozpetek focuses on small things, intimate moments between the caretaker's family, the chatter of old folks in the neighborhood, and the non-verbal communication that occurs frequently among the film's characters. This is a personality film more than an idea film, and the cast proves it. As Francesco, Alessandro Gassman, the son of famed actor Vittorio Gassman, has a smoldering erotic presence. He's unerringly masculine — tall, big-boned, dark-eyed, mysteriously remote. Though he's a bit too thick throughout the entire film, even after his steam bath smooch, there's no wondering why Mehmet and Marta both desire him. As Marta, Francesca d'Aloja easily captures myriad feelings, from scorned wife to understanding friend to liberated woman stuck in the outback. And though Mehmet Gunsur doesn't get to say or do much as the love interest, save stand around in tight jeans, one can only hope we get to see more of him. ▼

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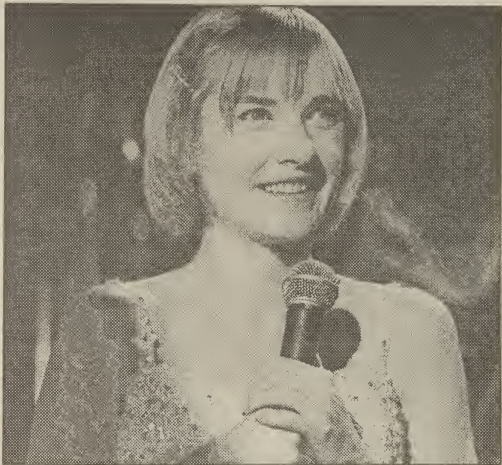
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FILM

Sing out, Louise!

Jane Horrocks breaks out of AbFab



Jane Horrocks in Mark Herman's *Little Voice*

by Robert Julian

Little Voice may be the perfect holiday season movie — a fairy tale with Dickensian overtones that uses songs by Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe, Shirley Bassey and Marlene Dietrich. And although there is nary a queer boy in sight, more than a few will be in the audience on opening night. *Little Voice* recalls many previous works, most notably the Cinderella story and Howard Ashman's musical version of *Little Shop of Horrors*, yet it remains true to itself, and truly original.

Jane Horrocks, who was the ditsy Bubble on television's *Absolutely Fabulous*, recreates the title role she first assayed on the London stage in Jim Cartwright's play *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice*. Little Voice is called L.V. by her slatternly mom, Mari (Brenda

Blethyn), who sits around the house complaining and berating her daughter for being a recluse. Awash in booze and cigarettes, the widowed Mari finally meets a low-rent show biz promoter named Ray Say (Michael Caine), the sleazoid of her dreams. But when she brings Ray home, their lovemaking is interrupted by the constant blare of old records coming from L.V.'s upstairs bedroom. Forced to turn off the phonograph, L.V. resorts to singing her own renditions of these pop classics. Listening from the floor below, Ray is convinced that the pathologically shy L.V. is "the next big thing," and he begins to plot L.V.'s rise to fame as a celebrity vocal impressionist.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, L.V. pines for her dear dead dad while she is courted by a shy telephone repairman, Billy (Ewan McGregor). Billy's primary emo-

tional attachment is to his homing pigeons, while L.V. relates only to her recordings of Garland and Monroe classics and the memory of her father. The two virginal adolescents both speak in monosyllables, and their attraction is of the "Suddenly Seymour" variety. The reluctant L.V. eventually makes her nightclub debut in the small British seaside resort where she lives and, envisioning her father in the audience, she delivers

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Looking for love in all the wrong places

Miserable straight singles in 'Unmade Beds'

by Gary Morris

British director Nicholas Barker's New York cult hit *Unmade Beds* has an unintended effect that will make it surprisingly welcome in otherwise hostile quarters. In showing in grim detail the mostly miserable lives of a quartet of aging, unmarried New York heterosexuals, the film offers reassurances to queer folk that we can truly be thankful for our outsider status.

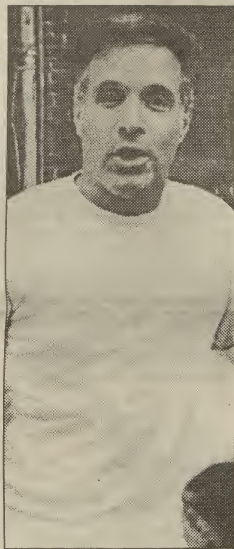
Unmade Beds is a very effective quasi-documentary, the cinematic equivalent of a "nonfiction

novel" that starts with real-life events and characters and embroiders them for dramatic effect. Barker is not only a filmmaker but an anthropologist, and there's a clinical coolness pervading this "story" — essentially interviews with two male and two female singles from New York about their experiences with the personal ads. From hours of taped interviews Barker created a screenplay that is apparently a mix of his subjects' words and scripted ones. The result — "constructed reality," in the director's words — has the look and feel of documentary; it's a bracing, bitter study of lives qui-

etly disintegrating under the pressure of intractable social and body norms.

The fantasy of the gym-buffed bod notwithstanding, gay men have made a place for a wide variety of body types, fetishizing, for example, obesity and old age, both anathema in mainstream straight culture. The denizens of *Unmade Beds* have no such luck. Michael is fortyish and cute, but at 5'4" he's apparently been judged defective by those mysterious hetero forces that determine such things. Some of his bitterness at not being able to present a bride to his demand-

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Michael De Stephano as himself in *Unmade Beds*.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Going to the Dickens

Danny Scheie's queer take on 'A Christmas Carol'

by Richard Dodds

Danny Scheie seldom plays it safe, so what is he doing in *A Christmas Carol* territory? Hijacking it, of course.

The writer, director, and performer, who turned *The Merchant of Venice* gay and made *Desk Set* an all-male affair, is using the Dickens holiday classic for his own agenda. This does not include warming the cockles of the audience's heart.

"But I think they'll laugh and I think they'll gasp," said Scheie, who is the author, director, and star of *Bill and Chuck* and *Scrooge*, opening this week at the Marsh. "I suppose it's pretty cynical, but it's not really about Christmas. It's about money — money and the theater."

Scheie is playing Bev, the ruthlessly driven artistic director of a regional theater who needs to produce *A Christmas Carol* for mercenary ends, but who wants to gussy up the old cash cow. And so she invokes the spirits of William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens for advice, which is that she play Scrooge herself. Bev goes on to win the Tony Award for her performance, but not before she has fired Bill and Chuck for trying to add a little genderbending to her production. Her revealing tirades provide Scheie with the opportunity to make his points about life in the theater.

"She's not based on anyone in particular, but people will probably think she is," Scheie said. "She's like a little Maggie Thatcher. I think that Scrooginess is funnier in a woman on stage because of the paradox of what's traditionally expected of women and the reality of power."

Stormy weather

The character's resemblance to any actual person may be purely coincidental, but the play is definitely informed by Scheie's stormy tenure as artistic director

of Shakespeare Santa Cruz. "Bev is based on what was sometimes expected of me," Scheie said. "Being an artistic director is really schizophrenic, because you're supposed to articulate an artistic vision, but it's suicidal to divorce yourself from the brass tacks of making money, even in a non-profit theater."

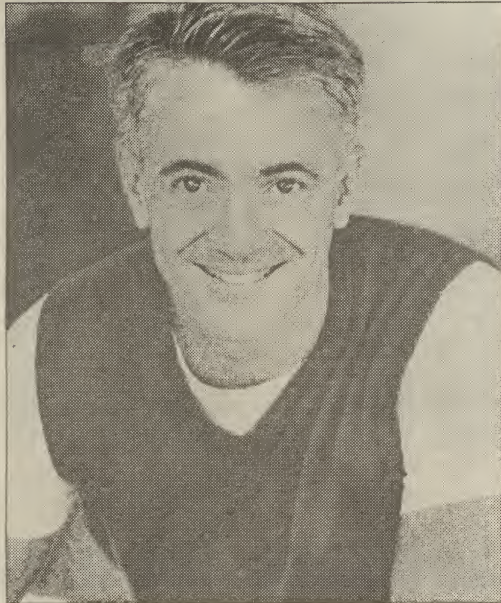
In 1994, the middle year of his three-year leadership of the summer Shakespeare festival, he began searching for "some crass vehicle" that would help underwrite what he really wanted to do. And what he really wanted to do was interpret Shakespeare in shades of gay.

His light-hearted transgendered production of *Comedy of Errors* had been a big hit with audiences and critics, but the tide quickly turned. "The critics and the board got sick of my making Shakespeare gay," Scheie said. "I think my production of *The Merchant of Venice* was the best thing I've done, but it was very controversial, and the in-your-face gay stuff drove them crazy. They tolerated my shenanigans as long as it was bringing in the bucks, but when that stopped, that's what they went after."

Scheie and Shakespeare Santa Cruz parted company after the 1995 season, but he has maintained a teaching job at UC Santa Cruz, where the festival is based. Scheie's interest in exploring the gay side of Shakespeare goes back to his own college days. He earned a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley with a dissertation on "Sexual Darkness in Shakespeare's Comedies," which presumed a higher homosexual component to the Bard than popularly acknowledged.

In his new comedy, Shakespeare is "gay, gay, gay," Scheie said. "And he's furious that people try to cover it up." Bev, on the other hand, "hates gay people, but she knows the theater needs them. She just wants to keep them behind the scenes."

That's pretty much how Scheie



Danny Scheie

views theater in general. "Theater belongs to us, in a way, but we don't run them," he said. "We are the drones. It's like they're saying, 'You are tenants in our world.' That's why I love San Francisco. It feels like it belongs to us."

Scheie, 37, arrived in the Bay Area 15 years ago, shortly after graduating from Indiana University. The family jumped around a lot in Scheie's early years, including a stop in Fargo, N.D., where he made his acting debut at age 10 playing a pig. "Since I was 3, I wanted to be an actor," he said, "and I always nagged my parents about getting into a show. Somehow, I found out about a Christmas production of *Winnie-the-Pooh*, and I made my mother take me to the auditions. I got the job because I was good."

Even as a kid, Scheie was developing an edge to what would turn out to be his gay persona. "Nellie little boys have it rough," he said, "but they don't have the option of hiding out in a straight world, so you can get brave and maybe a little less conflicted."

Up all night

There was one major detour on the road to his life in the theater. "I had this lapse after I saw *A Chorus Line*. It was the same year *The Turning Point* came out, and I just had to become a dancer. I went to Indiana University because of its dance program, but I was also discovering drugs and I had just come out. I was having too much fun to be serious about dancing, so I ended up in the theater department, where you could stay up all night."

By the time he began working towards his master's at Berkeley, alcohol had superseded the drugs. "I did graduate school pretty drunk," Scheie said. He stopped seven years ago when he realized "it wasn't going to get any prettier." Since he quit drinking, he's become "a lot smarter and a little meaner. I think drinking rounded my edges."

He also thinks his acting has gotten "way better," though he believes that directing may be his true forte. "I think I'm a little more unique as a director, but I love acting in a visceral way."

Recent directorial efforts have included *The Lady in Question*, *The Last Hairdresser*, *Up Jumped Springtime*, and an all-male *Desk Set* at Theatre Rhino, an unusual version of *Picnic* at the Marin Theatre Company, *Die, Die, Diana!* at San Jose State, and the new staging of *Christmas with the Crawford* at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. He was last seen as an actor in *Dr. Scheie's Traffic School*, an off-the-wall one-man show that also marked his playwriting debut.

Scheie, who has been coupled for the past three years with attorney Paul Wotman, is always looking for ways to cobble together a living from work in the theater. "I take a lot of jobs, and I usually have

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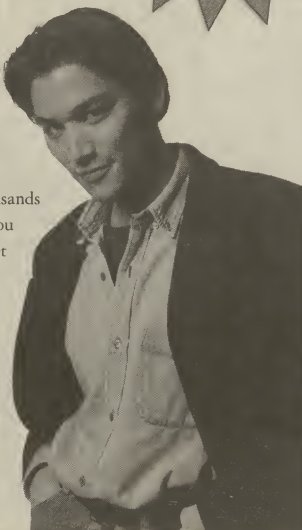
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One from the crotch

Life of Jacqueline Susann on USA Network

by Robert Julian

I remember Jacqueline Susann as a tall, vaguely trashy woman in her late forties who constantly appeared on talk shows promoting her novel, *Valley of the Dolls*. The novel became a very bad slut-fest of a film, but until she died from breast cancer in 1974, Susann kept working the talk show circuit, promoting her two final pulp fiction sagas, *The Love Machine* and *Once Is Not Enough*. Susann always aimed for the crotch, and her books were runaway bestsellers.

The life of Jacqueline Susann is now illuminated by the USA Network's original presentation of *Scandalous Me: The Jacqueline Susann Story*, starring Michele Lee. It is an appropriately awful biopic, showcased by a notably third-rate venue. Lee portrays Susann as a pill-popping, boozing dynamo who spends all of her life trying to get the approval of her father, a successful painter. A failure as an actress and model, Susann marries Irving Mansfield (Peter Riegert), a successful Manhattan public relations man. She gives birth to an autistic child who spends most of his life in an institution, and she finally claws her way to the top via self-promotion and a modicum of talent. Her first book, *Every Night, Josephine*, is about her French poodle, and Susann is outraged when John Kennedy steals her thunder by getting assassinated in the middle of her first book tour.

Based on Barbara Seaman's biography, *Lovely Me: The Life of Jacqueline Susann*, *Scandalous Me* has enough problems to sink the Titanic. Writer Michele Gallery and director Bruce McDonald should both be shot, but not before they are allowed to strangle their editor, Susan Shipton. There are so many continuity problems in this story that it occasionally seems to be a series of non-sequiturs held together by unrelated individuals. Evidently, there was an entire lesbian subplot left



Michele Lee as Jacqueline Susann in *Scandalous Me*

on the cutting-room floor, most likely a victim of USA conservatism. Only two remnants of this story angle make it to the screen. In one scene, we see Susann enter a dressing room that is occupied by an actress. Wordlessly, the two women lock eyes and approach each other. Just as they are about to kiss, the door opens and some production assistant walks in. A few scenes later, Ethel Merman (Sandra O'Neill) tells Susann's husband, "Irving, get your crazy dyke wife off me." How one unconsummated kiss leads to Merman's public declaration of Susann's lesbianism is never explained.

Steamroller derby

Susann was an interesting woman whose literary accomplishments, despite their tawdry nature, were certainly precedent-setting. But this film is so stereotypically bad that it could serve as the prototype for the entire genre of made-for-TV movies that cable networks churn out for an audience already bored to tears when they flip on their TV. *Scandalous Me* is one of those steamroller biographies that unleash a juggernaut of production values, make-up, and costumes that massacres everything in their path. This cinematic style sees biographical fact as the necessary inconvenience that gives rise to all-important changes in costume jewelry. It is a modus operandi that is not helped by Michele Lee's non-performance in the title role.

Lee is shallow in Susann's emotional crises and stridently unconvincing in her portrayal of the author's more brash impulses. Her casting can only be attributed to one fact: Michele Lee is also the executive producer of this flop. When Meryl Streep is not available, Lee is not the next name on the list. And many experienced Hollywood actresses of a certain age take to producing their own vehicles when the telephone stops ringing. Biopics like *Scandalous Me* are what result from this phenomenon.

In an interesting footnote, Barbara Parkins (who played goodie-two-shoes Anne in the film version of *Valley of the Dolls*) makes a cameo appearance here as Susann's literary agent, Annie Laurie Williams. It's a hoot to watch Parkins-as-Williams call out, "Get me Barbara Parkins!" But as far as *Scandalous Me* is concerned, once is more than enough. ▼

Scandalous Me debuts
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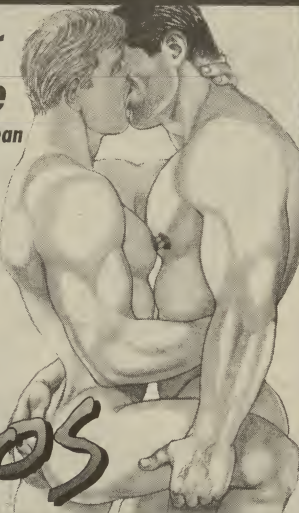
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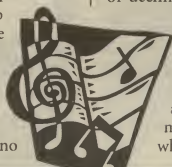
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Making it up as they go along

by Tim Pfaff

With the Spirit of India festival and the Jazz Festival having run their courses and not much shaking at Yoshi's these days, it seemed like the chances to hear music at its most acute — improvised music — were drying up in the Bay Area. Then along came the area's early-music community, of all things, to fill the gap handsomely. In the course of a week, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra presented whiz classical fortepianist Robert Levin in Mozart's C-Minor Piano Concerto, K. 491 — the



Notes From All Over

same concerto Peter Serkin was playing with the San Francisco Symphony that week — and the San Francisco Early Music Society presented the local premiere of the British early-music ensemble Romanesca, featuring ace violinist Andrew Manze, at Berkeley's First Congregational Church. It all turned into a hang onto your hats and powdered wigs jam, and audiences ate it up.

Serkin, a pianist I've loved since childhood, distinguished himself among Symphony soloists by playing his own cadenza, the soloist's appointed place to show off, in the Mozart concerto's first movement, and he introduced a welcome note of modernism in the process. Levin, as is his wont, went him one better, truly improvising cadenzas in both of the concerto's outer movements, further improvising embellishments to the notated music and playing along spontaneously in the continuo lines where there is no piano notation, standard operating procedure in Mozart's day but all but absent in present-day readings. It's not so much a matter of changing tastes

than of today's pianists being largely unequipped to do it.

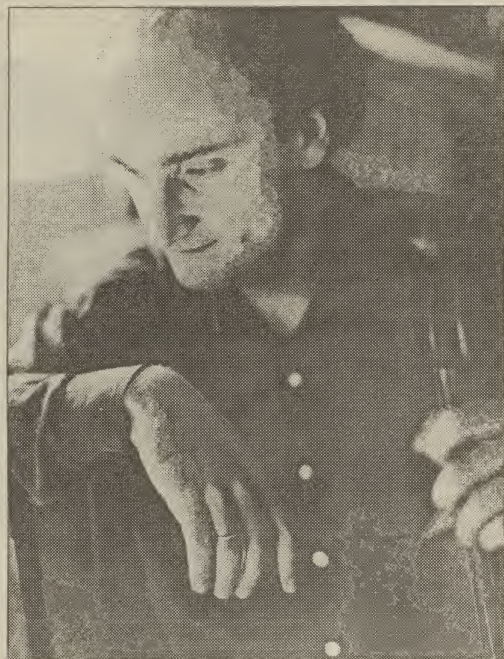
If that weren't enough, Levin performed his customary post-intermission party trick of improvising on a set of musical themes supplied by audience members during intermission. From accounts of various concerts I've heard, the only problems were with the inherent musical poverty of the themes provided. The fruits of declining musical education are upon us, the sadder for all of us.

The biggest regret of my musical fall was being unable to hear any of Levin's performances. But the people who told me about them shared the giddiness I've felt

all the other times I've heard him perform both stunts. It's showbiz, to be sure, but Mozart never sounds more alive or more contemporary than when Levin plays it "the old way." And the reason he can is that he's the only earthing who knows by heart every note of Mozart and the way that enormous corpus of music all fits together. Nothing less would give him the freedom to share with listeners the thrill of Mozart at his most vital. (If you missed it too, you can get a feel for it from Levin's London recordings of the Mozart concertos with the Academy of Ancient Music under Christopher Hogwood. You haven't really heard a Mozart concerto until you've checked them out.)

Fantastic voyage

Hearing Manze pull off a similar feat on fiddle made November 21 one of the red-letter days of my musical year. Playing a demonstrably weirder repertoire — 17th-century music of the "fantastic style" that's languished in neglect for want of people who can play it at all, let alone right —



English violinist Andrew Manze

the 34-year-old English violinist gave one of the most dazzling displays of fiddle chops heard locally since Maxim Vengerov's last appearance. Nothing topped the sheer fun of Biber's "Sonata Representativa," in which florid music of a more standard cast was larded with the composer's instrumental impressions of a frog (bow scrapes across the bridge), a cat, a small flock of birds, and a musketeer — when laughs of audience recognition all but drowned out the performance.

But the serious music was no less bracing, made the more compelling by the unmistakable sense that Manze was improvising at least as many of the notes as he was reading off the page — and in the process tossing off some playing at speeds and flights of inspiration that seemed at the very edge of what's possible on the violin. Audiences dig that kind of playing no matter what the instrument, music or style, the more so because it's the rarest of musicians who even attempt it. Audiences get that, too.

Manze — who not surprisingly got his start as a musician playing contemporary music, and loves jazz deeply — is that star-

ting combination of keen, quicksilver mind, deep but questioning scholar (he read classics at Cambridge before giving himself to music), consummate and uninhibited musical technician and natural, unashamed, generous showman. He plays the way he does because it's the closest he can get to being a composer as a player, and takes the risks because it's fun and that's what he wants his audience to have. Try it, he says, you'll like it — and you will.

His records, all for Harmonia Mundi, are superb — and nearly as invigorating as his playing live. There's already a pile of them, but good places to start are *Phantastikus*, devoted to the 17th-century Italian music he played in Berkeley, the two-CD *Biber: Violin Sonatas* (which includes a wonderful "Representativa"), and his most recent recording, two CDs of *Handel's Concerti Grossi Op. 6*, with the Academy of Ancient Music, in which he directs as well as solos. If, God forbid, jolly ol' Nick McGegan ever leaves Philharmonia, our local historical performaniacs should get right on the horn to Manze. In the meantime, would a guest stint be such a bad idea? ▼

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SF Opera's 'Betrothal in a Monastery' Throwaway elegance

by Paul Thomason

If you absolutely have to sit through Prokofiev's *Betrothal in a Monastery* to make your life complete, then run to the War Memorial Opera House and do so before the current production has its last performance on December 10. Chances are San Francisco will never again see *Betrothal* in such enchanting, glittery surroundings as this outing, which originated at St. Petersburg's Kirov Opera. With a cast largely made up of Russian singers, superbly conducted by Valery Gergiev (in what is widely assumed will be his final appearance with the SF Opera), it is a safe bet these performances are about as good, to say nothing of authentic, as one could wish.

It is just a shame all of this effort has gone into such a third-rate work when there are so many Russian operas one would rather see. Based on Sheridan's play *The Duenna*, or *The Double Elopement*, *Betrothal* is almost a parody of Italian comic opera — which, in the right hands, could make for a delightful evening. At the risk of being hopelessly politically incorrect, "sophisticated comedy of manners" is not exactly the first thing that springs to mind after hearing the words "Russian opera." (Prokofiev's own delightful *L'Amour des Trois Oranges* is the exception which proves the rule, and note that *Oranges* is written in French, not Russian. That's no accident.)

The only musical highlight of the evening is a sumptuous quartet in the first scene of Act III for one of the young couples and two older gents. Otherwise the result is similar to Richard Strauss at his most insipid notespinning, combined with Richard Wagner's sense of humor — in Russian: a three-and-a-half-hour Punch and Judy Show. Prokofiev seems to have decided that if an idea was even faintly entertaining once, it should be heard at least a dozen times. As a friend said after seeing *Betrothal* in Paris, "It did have its bright moments, but *les longueurs*, oh, my god. No wonder those people drink."

Schemes and scenes

The plot involves two young couples thwarted in their attempts to get married, a father who plans to marry his daughter to a wealthy fish merchant, a scheming duenna

na who wants the fish merchant (or rather his money) for herself, old men who think they are God's gift to women, masked revelers, dancers, plus choruses of fish wives and drunken, venial monks — there is hardly a comic opera cliché left unexplored.

But oh, that sensational production! Vladislav Pazi, working with designer Alla Kozhenkova (both in their local debuts), has come up with the kind of deft, inventive framework which one seldom sees at the War Memorial. It is well thought out, never gets in the way of the opera, yet always keeps the action moving. Scene changes often are accomplished by a huge fan opening toward the audience (or closing), sometimes providing a sloping ramp for the action, with various drops behind or in front of it. The production is permeated with the sort of elegance and grace which should characterize any staging of a Mozart or Rossini work.

To cite only one example of the attention to detail which fills the evening: when the drunken monks suddenly switch to singing hymns, the supertitles appear in Old English type — a perfect touch.

Perhaps the most consistently engaging singer of the evening was Larissa Diadkova as the Duenna. Her dark, sumptuous voice and astonishing physical comedic acting were equally impressive. It is a rare joy to be able to watch and hear such consummate artistry. Anna Netrebko was a beguiling Louisa, though her beautiful, expressive voice was inclined to stray from pitch. Debuting Evgeny Akimov, as Louisa's lover Antonio, displayed a bright, attractive tenor voice which made me look forward to hearing him in a more grateful role. Also giving strong performances were Nikolai Gassiev (debut) as Don Jerome and Gennady Bezubenkov as Mendoza. When Hollywood decides to remake some Errol Flynn movies, it could do much worse than to call on Mel "Swash-buckler" Ulrich (Don Ferdinand in these *Betrothals*), who wields a sword and jumps on and off tables with equal élan. He sings good, too.

Among the numerous smaller parts, Peggy Kriha Dye as Lauretta and Norma Shankle as Brother Elustaf were especially enjoyable. (Shankle and several others assumed multiple roles during the evening.)

Gassiev, Netrebko, Diadkova

and Akimov are all on the Philips recording on the opera conducted by Gergiev — but believe me, this is an opera you want to see. ▼

Performances of *Betrothal in a Monastery* will continue through December 10. Beginning December 3, there are several changes in the cast and a new conductor. For tickets and information, call (415) 864-3330.

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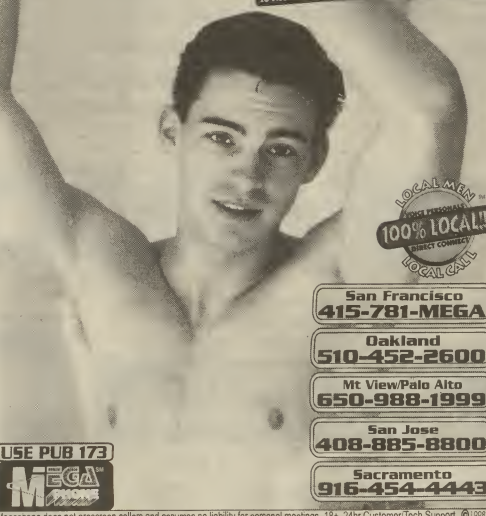
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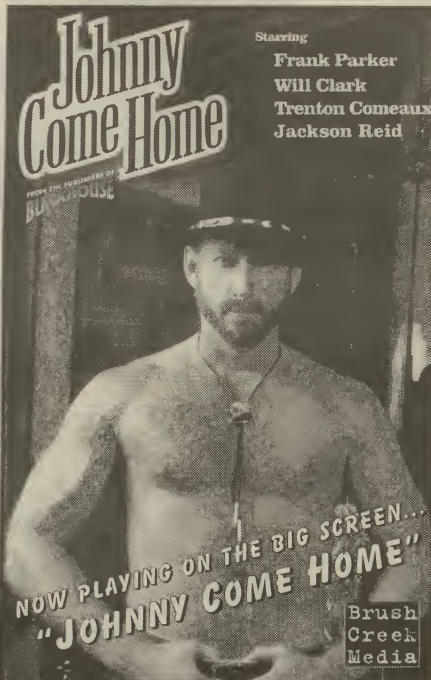
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A study in contrasts

MTT, Blomstedt offer differing podium styles

by Philip Campbell

Anyone harboring secret doubts about the ultimate importance of musical conductors should have been at Davies Hall during recent weeks. The impact of current Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas on the San Francisco Symphony sharply contrasted with the style and taste of his predecessor, Herbert Blomstedt, in back-to-back concert programs. The response from players and audiences alike was lively and instructive.

Returning for his annual visit as Conductor Laureate, Blomstedt evoked pleasant memories of his decade-long tenure here with

works by mainstream composers long associated with his name, and the rather mildly daring programming that endeared him to conservative patrons in the past. Lauded as an orchestra builder and selfless musician in his day, the present Music Director of the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig wears his years lightly and maintains his solid reputation. He will always have a place in our hearts.

Exciting he is not, however, and his reception this year was a little more restrained than usual. Local audiences have had a chance to settle in with Tilson Thomas, and I daresay they are spoiled by his seductive blend of glamour and brilliant musicianship. Blomstedt was also leading a

band, this time, with subtly different values. MTT is making some personnel changes, and some of the first chair faces have been shifted or replaced.

Blomstedt brought us his trademark eye for the big picture with Bruckner's Symphony No. 3, and his big-boned and poised approach to Beethoven with a fine Symphony No. 8. He also featured pianist Peter Serkin's performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24. The only surprise of his stay came with the ridiculously overdue SFS debut of Benjamin Britten's Violin Concerto. Young German violinist Frank Peter Zimmermann gave an impressive reading of the lovely work, and his small imperfections only added

emotion to the score. A juxtapositioning of Beethoven's March for the Bohemian Militia and Paul Hindemith's *Geschwindmarsch* by Beethoven from the *Symphonia serena* served as charming, but inconsequential filler.

High voltage

When MTT resumed the podium last week after a brief early season absence, the voltage

the Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, Opus 83 by Brahms. Feltsman is an able practitioner, and he is clearly more suited to Brahms than Bach (according to my memory of an unfortunate prior experience). While I can think of several other virtuosos I would rather hear in this richly varied score, they are all dead, and Feltsman is very much alive. He managed a credible and clearly delineated

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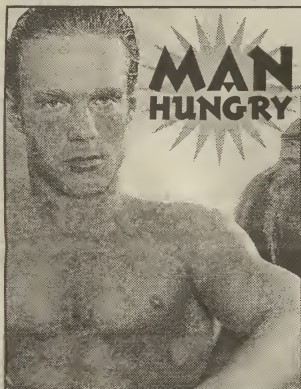
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Maestro Herbert Blomstedt

level of SFS musicians was palpably higher. The cleverly designed program had something for everyone, and the balance of the concert was richly satisfying. Playing the elegant wittiness of Haydn off the heavier, but just as amusing humor of Shostakovich was a typical Tilson Thomas touch, and the audience was enraptured.

Hearing any Shostakovich performed live is eventful, and the neglected Symphony No. 9 has always been a personal favorite. To be treated to such a rip-roaring and deeply felt rendition was sheer pleasure, and the gorgeous bassoon and clarinet solos were handled beautifully. There is an edge to the tormented composer's laughter, and MTT knows how to keep the conflicting moods in synch. Finally free from comparisons to Leonard Bernstein's milestone interpretations, can we hope for more MTT/Shostakovich in the future?

After intermission, Russian pianist Vladimir Feltsman filled the second half of the evening with

performance, after a slightly clagorous beginning. The audience was appreciative, but not ecstatic, and what is up with Feltsman's bizarre mugging for the crowd? There were more coughs than usual, but it is flu season. Still, that couldn't adequately explain some of his strange facial responses.

Of course, Tilson Thomas laid a sumptuous carpet of support for his soloist, and the concert added up to more than the sum of its parts. This week, the maestro brings us *Century Rolls* by the prolific and popular John Adams with pianist Emanuel Ax, and Beethoven's glorious Mass in C major and other choral works with the SFS Chorus. The season and MTT's career continue to unfold with thrills and surprises. Herbert Blomstedt will doubtless return next year, and his visit will be enjoyed by no few listeners, myself included. We will always be aware of his contributions and grateful for the award-laden recorded legacy. His groundwork made MTT's fresh and innovative leadership possible. ▼



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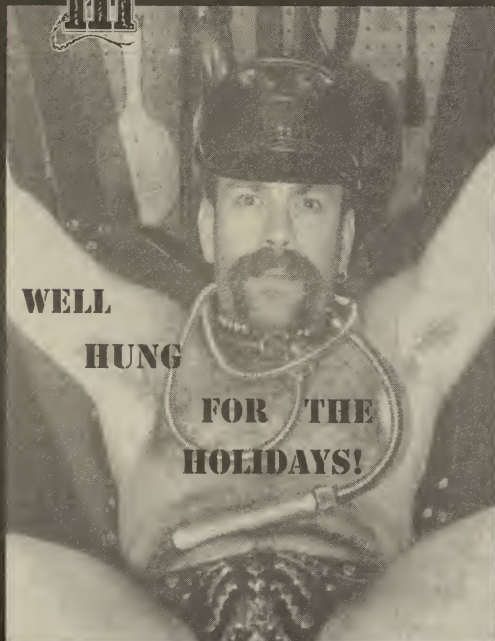
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DANCE

National Acrobats of China at Zellerbach Hall

Don't try this at home

by Aimée Ts'ao

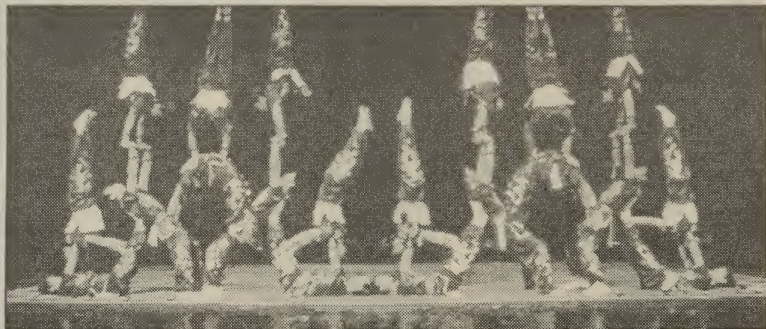
Now that I've gotten my jaw back in place, I can tell you that I've rarely had my mind so boggled by the previously unimagined possibilities of the human body, than when I saw the National Acrobats of China at Zellerbach Hall last Saturday night. Unlike seeing a pyrotechnical display at the ballet, there is no pretense to high art here. The performers' goal is simply to astonish you.

You can't expect an upscale Le Cirque du Soleil from Taiwan, but it's easy to forget the trite music, costumes verging on tacky, and weak attempt at a story, when the sheer daring, dexterity, and superhuman skills keep you constantly in awe.

In the pre-performance discussion, Artistic Director Lo Jih-Hung answered questions from the audience concerning the troupe. He said that there were no performers from Mainland China, though they had toured there, and that the group had no political affiliation. All the performers are

graduates of the National Fu Hsing Dramatic Arts Academy, whose purpose is to train actors and actresses in the traditional Chinese and Taiwanese performing arts. Having had the same intense and thorough training is probably a major reason why these acrobats work so well together.

Some of the more amazing feats I'll describe because I need to reassure myself that I really saw them. A contortionist holding a straight leg in front of her face, while standing on the other, balances a vase on her flexed foot. She does a backbend, placing her hands on the floor. And then lifts the other leg off the floor so that she is in a handstand with one leg still balancing the vase and the other parallel to the floor. The foot returns to the floor, she comes up from the backbend and takes the vase off her foot. Then she lies on her back with all her limbs perpendicular to the floor. She balances objects that resemble small red Christmas trees on her feet, hands and head. Slowly she turns over so that she is now lying on her stomach with her



The National Acrobats of China perform amazing feats of dexterity.

limbs still straight up in the air balancing the trees.

Several women take turns lying on a bench and juggling various objects with their feet. A log, a large flower pot, and finally a table, which is flipped around every-which direction and balanced on one corner. Ten women spin plates on sticks, three in each hand, while performing all kinds of acrobatics, including standing on each other's shoulders and even on one foot atop another's head while she turns around. Sixty plates spinning for ten minutes and not a single one dropped.

During a display of martial arts, one man balances on his chest on the sharp point of a trident. Then out come the bicycles, the acrobats doing the usual formations of

bodies as they circle the stage, culminating in one spectacular pyramid with ten performers on one bike. In a particularly impressive section, six women spin hourglass-shaped tops along pieces on string held in both hands. They toss them around as easily as you might flip a quarter to a busker. One woman tosses her top high into the air, does two walkovers, and finishes in time to catch the top again.

Another young man builds his own tower of chairs on top of a table and does a handstand at the pinnacle after the addition of each one. Not something to try at home, the audience is advised.

Somehow, all the corny humor works as well, for example in the magician's act when he gets a volunteer from the audience and then

dismisses him because he's too big to fit in the basket.

After an incredible finale of tumbling and human pyramids interlinked to form a human wall which rotates, the audience cheered wildly and gave these remarkable acrobats a well-deserved standing ovation.

Leaving the theater, we ran into a friend who said that after seeing the show she wanted to learn to be an acrobat. And we realized, too, that we would love to do all those unbelievable stunts ourselves. That's the thrill of seeing performers who make it all seem so effortless; everyone believes for a moment that the skill is within their reach. But alas, no new tricks for these old dogs, just memories of an exciting evening. ▼

'Dance-Along'

Arts cover

Tropicana. While Ricky's band was putting together a Christmas show, Lucy was conniving with Ethel to worm her way onto stage. It was done as a live television show, including the commercials, with Marga Gomez as Ricky and Gail Wilson as Lucy. There also have been a lot of repeat performers over the years, including the SF Tap Troupe, City Swing, Cheer San Francisco as Russian Cosacks, José Sarria as the Sugar Plum Fairy (wearing pointe shoes), and The Bethany Handbell Choir playing traditional carols.

This year's show looks to be the best yet. Since ascending the podium three years ago, Maestro Jadine Louie has continually revamped the format. Originally the first half of the evening was basically a musical concert, and the second half had sections of audience participation interspersed with professional dancers and performers. Louie modestly takes the credit "for making it more of a revue and variety show. A kind of club sandwich alternating participating and watching."

Swans, snakes...

Though the band does play a transcription of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*, Louie has thrown in other dance music by the same composer, bits from *Swan Lake* and *Sleeping Beauty*, as well as showtunes, to liven things up. If you come reluctantly and suddenly find yourself inspired to waltz along, there are tutus and magic wands for rent. The 1998 version will include a belly dancer with real snakes.

"The first *Nutcracker* with live animals. Nothing like adding a bit of circus to your ballet," Louie added with a laugh. And to spice it up even more, the Vu Sisters, a professional dance team — Carolyn Carvajal and Corinne Levy — will kick up their collective heels in every type of dance, from a flapper-style shag to a belly dance, to a vaudeville tap routine.

One of the most important aspects of this year's *Dance-Along* is that it is part of the SFLG Free-

dom Band's 20th anniversary season. The Band, founded in 1978 by Jon Sims at the height of Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade, was the first openly gay community music group in the world, and has inspired the formation of other lesbian and gay bands, choruses and performing groups. Its mission was to bridge the gay and non-gay communities through musical events. Over the years the Band has presented free Community Concert Series, marched in parades, performed at many civic functions and even at a local elementary school for the first Gay Awareness Day in the history of the SF Unified School District, winning numerous awards in the process.

The *Dance-Along* is perhaps the most successful event in terms of the SFLG Freedom Band's mission, bringing together people from every walk of life, every age, race, economic class, and sexual orientation. Where else can you see dozens of Sugar Plum Fairies, some of whom are businessmen with rented tutus tied on over their suits, others angelic little girls, and still others flaming drag queens? The term "common ground" takes on new dimensions. Here you can dance just like you please, being both part of the crowd and a star at the same time.

So forget about the seasonal shopping frenzy, leave that to the congenial consumers, and have an exhilarating evening, costumed and coifed to the hilt, dancing till you drop. Having had my fill of tulle and toe shoes, I'll be going as Drosselmeyer, complete with beard, eye patch, and nutcracker. See you there! ▼

Dance-Along Nutcracker™ will be happening at the Forum at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts this weekend. The *Dance-Along Deluxe*, an opening night gala featuring City Swing in a post-performance dance addict's dream, will be Sat., December 5 at 7 p.m. Regular performances on Sun., December 6 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. For tickets, call (415) 978-ARTS. For more information, call (415) 554-0402.

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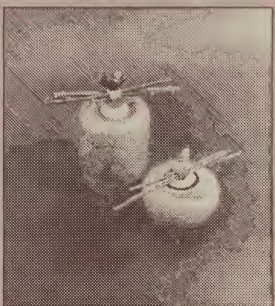
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Ceramic jars by Barbara Sebastian

Crafty women

While harried holiday shoppers crowd retail stores this weekend and next, desperately searching for gifts that aren't boring but that don't cost a month's wages, those in the know will be down at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion, leisurely buying handicrafts from the women who make and sell them.

Nothing quite beats buying direct from the manufacturer, and each weekend at the Celebration of Craftswomen, some 140 women who sculpt wood and metal objects, weave fabrics, sew garments, assemble children's toys, blow glass, fashion pottery, and otherwise create gift-worthy items will be on hand to display their wares and sell direct to shoppers, minus any middle-person.

Now in its 20th year, the event is presented by its beneficiary, the San Francisco Women's Building, the first women-owned and operated nonprofit female community center in the United States. The center will benefit from raffles held hourly during the event. In addition, a silent auction will be held both weekends as the major fundraiser.

Enlivening the marketplace will be several outstanding entertainers. On Saturday, Dec. 5, singer-songwriters Sharon Benson and Peggy Watson will alternate sets, performing from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. At 4:30 p.m., the lesbian a cappella quartet Out on a Clef will engage the crowd. Meanwhile, physical comedienne Diane Wasnak (currently with Cirque du Soleil) will do her stunts while strolling around amid shoppers.

On Sunday, Dec. 6, singer, actor, and dancer Susie Butler will play two shows in the late morning and early afternoon; later that day, the Prunella Sisters, with Pat Durant, will perform traditional Celtic music, along with Hungarian folk dancing.

Not surprisingly for an all-women event in the Bay Area, more than 70 of the craftspeople involved identify as lesbian or bisexual. Notable among them is San Francisco's own Barbara Sebastian, a lesbian craftswoman who creates exquisitely delicate and fanciful ceramic "fetish jars." ▼

A Celebration of Craftswomen takes place Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 5-6 and 12-13, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion. Admission is \$6 adults, \$5 seniors, and free for children under 12. Special two-day passes are \$10. For more information, call 252-8981.



Flamboyant singer, songwriter, piano player Rufus Wainwright livens up the Great American Music Hall. See Sunday.

Fri

Yerba Buena Center
PopcornQ presents a holiday screening of "Something Special" by Paul Schneider (1986, 90 min., 35mm), plus a selection of queer trailers from the archives of Jenni Olson. The feature, starring Milly Niceman and Patty Duke, is a teen transgender comedy about a girl who wakes in the middle of the night to discover she's grown "a guy's thing down there." \$6 (\$3 students/seniors). 8pm. Screening Room, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at Third). Tix/info: 978-2787. Web: www.popcornq.com (AOL keyword: PopcornQ).

ODC Theater

The Mel Wong Dance Company performs "Three Generations." Includes Wong dancing his famous solo, "Growing up Asian American in the Fifties." His wife, Connie Kreemer, performs another autobiographical solo, "Never Say Never." Plus other pieces. \$12 door. 8pm. Also on 12/5. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Diego Rivera Theatre

"Festival of American Playwrights of Color," directed by Ann Fajilan. Local and national playwrights from Native American, African, Asian and Latino American backgrounds celebrate diversity. \$10 (\$5 students/seniors). 8pm. Also on 12/5 and 12/11-13. City College of S.F., 50 Phelan Ave. (corner of Phelan & Judson). 239-3100.

The LAB

"Sound Unwound," a series of experimental music and noise performances. Tonight: The Haters, Knacker, and Amy X. Neuberger & MAN. \$10. 9:30pm. 2948-16th St. (at Capp). Reservations: 864-8855.

Marin Country Day School

Disco Holiday Dance Party, a benefit for the Marin AIDS Project's ongoing youth education and client services. Disco dancing, drag show, and contests. Special performances by comedians Karen Ripley and Doug Holsclaw. Hors d'oeuvres and "bell bottom" punch served. Prizes for best '70s fashion and funkiest dance couple. \$25. 8pm-midnight. 5221 Paradise Drive, Corte Madera. 457-2487.

Julia Morgan Theater, Berkeley
Virtuoso jazz/rock/country

guitarist Bill Frisell debuts his new trio, rounded out by Greg Leisz on pedal steel guitar and dobro, and David Pittch on upright bass. Leisz has played with Jewel, Beck, k.d. lang, Joni Mitchell, and many other stars. \$15 advance; \$17 door. 2640 College Ave. Info: (415) 454-5238.

Studio @ Rhino

"The P.A. Cooley Holiday Special" spreads queer holiday glee in an evening of sketch comedy and backstage hi-jinx. Directed & co-written by Sean Owens. With P.A. Cooley, Paul Tena, Shari McCoy, Libby Cox, Josh Truett, Tara Blau, Drew Todd, and Doug Ireland, plus special guests. \$12. 8:30pm. Thru 12/19. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Reservations: 861-5079.

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre

"Christmas with the Crawfords," presented by Artful Circle Theatre. A musical romp with Joan Crawford and her children. Starring Michael Cameron Benbrook as Joan Crawford. \$20. 8pm & 10pm. Thru 1/9/99. 620 Sutter St. Reservations: 621-5455.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"From the Hip." 8pm. \$20. Fridays & Saturdays (\$16 for Thursdays and Sunday matinees). Thru 1/16/99. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market), lower lobby. Tix/info: 861-8972.

Theatre Rhinoceros

Final performances: "Valsetz," the story of a hard-driving lesbian Hollywood producer whose car breaks down in front of an elderly widow's home in Valsezt, Oregon (Population: one). Preceded by "Industry Standards," three short comedies about men in the Arts. \$12-\$19. Closes 12/5. 2926 16th St. Reservations: 861-5079.

Kimo's Showroom

Second anniversary of *En Drag*, premiering an all-new show. With special guest star Montana, returning for two nights only (also on 12/11). Hosted by Sexilya Luveat and the original emcee, Chablis. Doors open 9pm; first show starts at 10pm. \$10 cover (includes all three shows, each different). 1351 Polk St. (at Pine). 885-4535.

Josie's

"Holiday Ham!" starring Varla Jean Merman with the Lounge-o-lears. A feast of vocal acrobatics, original songs and parodies, and unusual takes on sacred holiday classics. \$15. (\$36 with four-course gourmet vegetarian dinner, starting at 6pm). Shows at 8pm & 10pm. Josie's Juice Joint and Cabaret, 16th St. near Market. Reservations: 861-7933.

Sat

Yerba Buena Center
Opening night gala perfor-



Renowned jazz/rock/country guitarist Bill Frisell debuts with his new trio at Berkeley's Julia Morgan Theater. See Friday.

mance: "Dance-Along Nutcracker," featuring the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band conducted by Jaidine Louie. A benefit for the band and the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts. Tutu rentals & fairy wands available. Featured performances by the Vu Sisters, Cheer San Francisco, Bethany Bell Choir, and Bay Area Sugar Plum Wannabes. Includes a post-ballet holiday swing dance starring City Swing with Gail Wilson. \$25. 7pm. The Forum at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd). Info: 554-0402.

Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center

"MeltDown." Disco hits the ice in this all-queer skating party. Grab your gay blades and twirl around the rink with your partner hand in hand. Glitter balls for all guests! Pretend you're Rudy Galindo, or whoever. \$10. 10:30pm-midnight. 750 Folsom St. (btwn 3rd & 4th).

MCC

Mark and Dean, a married gay couple, perform "Got To Be Free," a concert of upbeat pop music from their forthcoming album. A benefit for music programs at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy in the Castro. Opens with Comedian Danny Williams. \$10 advance (from A Different Light Bookstore); \$12 door. 8pm. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. 865-2744.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Golden Gate Men's Chorus presents "The Wonder of It All," an evening of holiday favorites, including new settings of traditional melodies and rousing spirituals, perennial favorites by Vaughan Williams, Handel, and Beethoven, and a world premiere of a commissioned work by local composer David Conte. \$15. 8pm. Also on Dec. 6, 8, & 15. 3281 16th St. (at Dolores). Tix at A Different Light Bookstore or at door. 863-6202.

Noh Space

Theatre of Yugen presents "Snow in a Silver Bowl," an evening of traditional Kyogen (comedy) and modern Noh adaptation. In the classic Kyogen *Busu*, a mysterious "sweet poison" stirs up trouble with two servants and their master. *Purgatory*, W.B. Yeats' morality tale, is performed in Noh style, adapted and directed by Theatre of Yugen's artistic director Yuriko Doi. \$10 (\$8 students/seniors). 8pm. 2840 Mariposa St. (in the Project Artaud). 621-7978.

La Peña, Berkeley

The 7th annual "Celebration of the Spirit" holiday concert, with lively Latin Jazz, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Venezuelan, and African-American music. Featuring Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir (a joyous five-voice capella group) and Trio Diaspora (Linda Tillery, John Santos, and Jacqueline Rago). \$18. 8pm. Also on 12/6. La Peña Cultural Center (www.lapea.org), 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Reservations: (510) 849-2568.

Julia Morgan Theater, Berkeley

Gamelan Sekar Jaya performs "Music and Dance of Bali," featuring five gamelan ensembles (comprised of gongs, bronze metallophones, drums, and flutes) along with several of Bali's most brilliant dancers. \$14 (\$12 students/seniors). 8pm. 2640 College Ave. Tix: (925) 798-1300. Info: (510) 237-6849.

Small Press Distribution

warehouse, Berkeley
Open House, including readings, open-stack browsing, discount prices, and live music and refreshments. San Francisco Poet Laureate Lawrence Ferlinghetti will be on hand. Local lesbian and gay authors Brian Boudrey, Renee Gladman, Kevin Killian, Camille Roy, and Ellen Ullman, along with Leslie Scalapino, will read from noon to 2pm. Music by Lars Mars and His Men from 2-4pm. 1341 7th St. (at Gilman). Info: (510) 524-1668.

S.F. Camerawork

1998 Benefit Auction of Fine Art Photographic Prints. Preview works from 11am to 1pm. At 1pm, renowned auctioneer Dale Stulz (formerly of Christie's) starts the bidding. More than 200 vintage and contemporary photographs will be offered. Perfect opportunity for those new to collecting. Admission is by catalog only, obtainable for \$12 from SF Camerawork, Fraenkel Gallery, Robert Koch Gallery, Rena Bransten Gallery, and other locations. 115 Natoma St. (btwn. New Montgomery & 2nd St.). 764-1001.

The Chat House

"Circle," a touring collective of singer/songwriters who join their talents to bring you an evening of original folk music ranging from the comical to the political. Featuring Amy Simpson, Diane Patterson, Lynelle Tyler, Kelly Conway, and Joan Hawkins. 8:30pm. 139 8th St. 255-8783.

The LAB

"Sound Unwound," a series of experimental music and noise performances. Tonight: Thomas DiMuzio and Scot Jenenik. \$10. 9:30pm. 2948-16th St. (at Capp). Reservations: 864-8855.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"Beautiful Thing," a story of young love triumphant against all odds, set in south-east London in 1993. Written by Jonathan Harvey, directed by Ed Decker. With Jamie Marks and Nathan Wheeler as two teenage boys who risk everything for happiness. \$20. 8pm. Thru 1/2/1999. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

Sun

Great American Music Hall

Rufus Wainwright performs his eclectic blend of Tin Pan Alley pop, displaying his usual flamboyance, dazzling voice, and penchant for crafting lush, piano-driven songs steeped in the traditions of classic American pop. The openly gay Wainwright is the son of musicians Loudon Wainwright II and Kate McGarrigle. Opening the show is P.J. Olsson. \$10. 8pm. 859 O'Farrell St. 885-0750.

848 Community Space

"Ms. Cabaret's Ooh La La," a dance/theater cabaret with trapeze, fire, dancers, song, spoken word, stripTEASE, and special emcees Charlie and O'Jackie. Directed by Krista DeNio. An expanded version of the performance recently seen at the Lesbian and Gay Dance Festival. Two shows at 7pm & 9pm. Doors open 6:15pm for first show, 8:30pm for second show. Arrive early to lounge with music, friends & refreshments. \$10-\$20 sliding. 848 Divisadero (at McAllister). Reservations: 922-2385.



Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir perform at Berkeley's La Peña. See Saturday.

715 Harrison @ 3rd
Klubstitute Collective presents the 4th Annual "Faux Queen Pageant" for drag queens trapped in real women's bodies. A benefit for Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (W.O.R.L.D.). Judges: Trauma Flintstone, Deena Davenport, Silke Tudor, Birdie Bob Watt, Margo St. James and Leah Garchik. Hostess & MC: Ruby Toosday. Co-MC: Chardonnay Adu-Doo. DJs: Ren & Quest. Audience members vote by tipping their favorite Faux Queens. \$5-\$25 sliding. Doors open 9pm. Guest performances at 10pm. Pageant at 11pm, with dancing till 3am. 331-1500 ext. 3438.

Eagle Tavern

"Santa's Cumming!!!" Defenders Christmas benefit for S. F. General Hospital's Pediatric AIDS Ward. Food drive for Project Open Hand. Christmas dinner. Charlie Pacheco sings queer country songs. Pose for photo with Santa or Ms. Santa. Sing kinky carols. Participate in raffle. \$8. 3-6pm.

Star Classics

Composer and pianist Steve Swayne performs "A Holiday Twist," a compilation of his own arrangements of holiday favorites. \$5. 5pm. Star Classics Performance Hall, 425 Hayes St. (at Gough). 552-1110.

The LAB

"Sound Unwound," a series of experimental music and noise performances. Tonight: Scott Arford, Kenneth Atch-

ley, and Laetitia Sonami. \$10. 9:30pm. 2948-16th St. (at Capp). Reservations: 864-8855.

Yerba Buena Center

The original "Dance-Along Nutcracker," featuring the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band conducted by Jadine Louie. Tutu rentals & fairy wands available. Costume contest. \$15 adults; \$10 children/seniors. 2pm & 7pm. The Forum at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd). Info: 554-0402.

Mon

Intersection for the Arts

"On a Mission," an original play written and performed by people living on the streets and in the hotels in the 16th & Mission neighborhood. The play, developed at Intersection over the past seven months, tells the true and often disquieting stories of five very different people's struggles to survive. \$7-\$14 sliding (free for the homeless). 8pm. Also on 12/9 & 12/12. 446 Valencia St. (near 16th). 626-3311.

Davies Symphony Hall

"Sing-It-Yourself Messiah," presented by the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Transforms an audience of 3,000 into one of the world's largest choruses for a rendition of Handel's famous oratorio. Michael Barrett conducts, with student soloists.

\$18-\$42. 8pm. Van Ness at Grove. Also on 12/8. Tix: Symphony Box Office, 864-6000. Info: 759-3410.

Tue

Modern Times

Erika Lopez reads from *They Call Me Mad Dog*, the continuing saga of bisexual biker chick Tomato Rodriguez. Tomato discovers that her girlfriend has been seeing another woman. Free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. (at 20th). 282-9246.

A Different Light

Photographer Steven Underhill signs copies of his new photobook, *Straight Boys*. Meet the artist and his models. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St.

Josie's

Rhodesa Jones' 50th birthday party: an evening of live art and benefit birthday roast. With Idris Ackamoor and guests. \$25. 8pm. Reservations: 861-7933.

Wed

Yerba Buena Center

Gay Life's "Days of Our Gay Lives Part IV: Homo for the Holiday," the ongoing video soap opera ripped from the lives of actual gay men. It's an evening of free food, soft drinks, a scavenger hunt, and lively discussion. A project of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Free. 7:30-10pm. The Forum Room at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd). To reserve space, call 788-LIFE or email gaylife@sfaa.org.

Harvey Milk Academy

"Gay Rap," an opportunity for discussion and friendship. All Welcome. Free. 7:30pm. Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy Auditorium, 4235 19th St. (at Collingwood). 522-8700.

Thu

Herbst Theatre

The Women's Philharmonic, in partnership with Amnesty International, the New Heritage Music Foundation, and Working Assets, presents "A Concert Tribute to Eleanor Roosevelt," marking International Human Rights Day. Featuring the world premiere of Eleanor's Gift for cello and orchestra by composer Chen-Yi, with cellist Paul Tobias. \$20-\$50. Post-

performance celebrations tickets are \$10. 8pm. War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 392-4400.

Footloose @ Venue 9

"A Holiday Comedy Festival," eight days of outrageous laughs. Tonight: Lisa Geduldig (of *Kung Pao Koshers Comedy* fame), Dan Lewis (a slightly manic, happily dysfunctional stand-up comic), and Johnny Kats (X-rated Xmas mischief). Subsequent nights will feature Dan Rothenberg, Fred Raker, Johnny Kats, Killing My Lobster, and others. \$10-\$12 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom & Howard). Info: 289-2000.

848 Community Space

"Stones and Tea," a dance performance with live music, featuring RUJEKO (Karen Abrams and Sean Felt) with special guests. \$7-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 848 Divisadero. 821-9535.

A Different Light

"The Dark Shade of Our Desire," readings by Yosefio V. Lewis, Moshi Abrahams, K.D. Medlock, Dee & Tiny, and Indigo Som. Curated by Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhran. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

The Marsh

"Bill and Chuck and Scrooge," a new play written, directed by, and starring Danny Schele. A very non-traditional Christmas tale lambasting family values, classic fiction, and Christmas itself. \$10-\$12 sliding (\$15 Fri. & Sat.). 8:30pm. Thru 12/20. 1062 Valencia St. (at 22nd). 826-5750.

Under One Roof

4th Annual Wine Tasting and Sale. Sample wines from Napa and Sonoma counties, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, and browse for gift items, including oils, spa products, and wines. A benefit for many area AIDS/HIV organizations. 5:30-8pm. 2362 B Market St. 252-9430.

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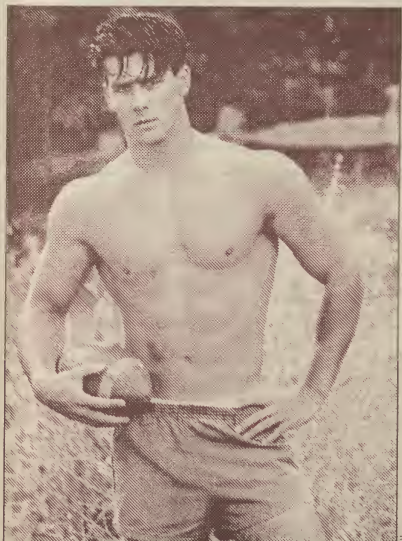
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Straight-boy models (like this one) will accompany photographer Steven Underhill for a book signing at A Different Light. See Tuesday.

Steven Underhill

Out There

◀ page 38

England and America share many things in common — except, of course, the language.

Press for fun

Language-impaired though we were, we loved reading the many manifestations of the British press. Only the *Times* of London, post-acquisition by Aussie tabloid magnate **Rupert Murdoch**, would supplement a front-page story of animal-lover **Brigitte Bardot** engineering the reprieve of **Woofy**, a black-and-white collie condemned to die by an Edinburgh sheriff for chasing a postman, with an editorial cartoon, also on the front page, of the dog remarking to another, "Frankly, I'd rather be saved by **Cameron Diaz**."

So you see it really wouldn't be the *Times* without at least one headline like, "It's true: the French really are the smelliest in Europe," or "Dentist is cleared of spanking allegations," both important enough for page 3. Also from the *Times*, we learned that **Bette Midler** has just completed filming *Isn't She Great?* based on the life of **Jacqueline Susann**, and certain to be better than the execrable USA Network version (see the review in this issue). The Divine Miss M said filming the biopic was "terrific. I got to wear lots of Gucci and be completely foul-mouthed, greedy and grasping. I think people will love me in it." The Brit press is not above twitting Americans, either, such as the gleeful report of *Baywatch*'s telegenic lifeguard **David Hasselhoff**, on being told his pop album had gone gold in Austria, reply-



Brigitte Bardot, the toast of Europe last week.

ing, "Where's Austria?"

For those who think the pundit broadcasts in the States have got way out of hand: on the Beeb (the BBC), a roundtable discussion of public vs. privatization of education threatened to devolve into fisticuffs when one well-bred guest objected to the presence on

the panel of novelist **Will Self** (*Great Apes, My Idea of Fun*) due to Self's past involvement with heroin, and Self looked ready to tear the Etonian a new arsehole.

In Self's weekly *Times* column, he claimed to be grappling with incipient homosexuality (like so many Cabinet ministers recently). He considers a foray to the S&M haunt *The Hoist*, only to be brought up short when a friend advises him, "But you wouldn't get in there, not without the right kit. They're very proper about that on the fetish scene. Mind you, you could be a leather queen — you can be a leather queen at any age, and no matter how little care you've taken of yourself."

We were promiscuous in our reading of the press, everything from the *Herald* from Glasgow to the cheeky fag style glossy *Attitude*, in whose "Sex issue" we were relieved to read their definition of "sex tourism": "shorthand for sleazy, fat — and old — pae-



Author Will Self

dophiles staggering out of a Thai brothel with a fistful of dollars in one hand and a 12-year-old boy in the other, caught in the glare of an unforgiving flashbulb, splashed under banner headlines for all right-thinking people to spurn like a slaving, pox-ridden dog." Nothing there could possibly cover our sex vacation — except perhaps for the dog.

We stayed at a good hotel so close to the Houses of Parliament that many MPs take suites there, and a "Parliament bell" in the lobby rings out when a bill has come to the floor for a vote. Considering the number of Ministers implicated in gay liaisons, we expected to come upon secret rendezvous behind every marble pillar. According to press accounts, ousted Agriculture Minister **Nicholas Brown** "has acknowledged that he occasionally gave his partner small sums of money, but denied he ever paid for sex." You just keep giving and we'll keep taking, honey.

Y not

Our last night in London, we opted for some sex tourism of the sort of which even *Attitude* would approve. The Y-Front is an underpants-only disco club held in a cellar in Brixton. Dozens of Englishmen with their kit off squeezed into crawlspaces lit by blacklight so that their panties lit up like Kryptonite. After dispensing with their clothes into large white trash bags, the Brits (and this accidental tourist) set about to the business at hand: grindin', gropin' and gruntin', always clustering in the most crowded, impossible-to-

squeeze-past nooks and crannies, proving that the herd instinct is alive and well with the modern European man. The Y-Front was also the only establishment where they served us our beer proper-like, in a bottle and not luke-warm. It truly is the End of Empire.

Shortly after enjoying these basement sports, which took us back to our boyhood, we flew backwards in time like **Superman**, to meet an imminent deadline at the arts desk. Unlike Superman, the time travel really took it out of us. Thank heavens we had been popping our melatonin and talking ourselves down.

Postscript: As if to prove that great minds (or somethings) think alike, at almost the very moment that we were jostling through the Y-Front, our chum, local snout **Pepi**, was gearing up to attend the underwear party at the Powerhouse, which was held the night of Turkey Day, or so we are given to understand. There must have been quite a few toms dragging their wattles through that Thanksgiving scene, but Pepi is known to have exclaimed, "I took a Viagra for this!"

Errata race

Listen: it's less foggy in London than here. Still, on the chill gray day on which we returned, we were glad to be back and catching up on our B.A.R.s. We enjoyed everything but the dropped copy off the very last line of our last little column. It was worth the newsprint, so here it is in full: "If you must go up in your daddy's stunt plane, darling, please remember to come back down." ▼

'Little Voice'

◀ page 45

on her great theatrical promise. But like Audrey II, this L.V. is a monster that could destroy her creators.

Musical wonder

Writer/director Mark Herman brought a wonderfully light touch to last year's *grassed Off*, and he does the same creditable job here. In *grassed Off*, he took a gaggle of unsympathetic coal miners, made them real, and communicated a moving sense of musical wonder, seemingly from thin air. In *Little Voice*, he is blessed with a dream cast. Michael Caine and Brenda Blethyn are wonderfully rude and evil, in a uniquely wicked-sister way. And Ewan McGregor's dimwitted telephone repairman is the perfect Prince Charming for the damaged L.V. Of course, the whole affair spins on the ability of Jane Horrocks to pull off L.V.'s transition from bed-bound recluse to show-stopping chanteuse, and Horrocks performs admirably — displaying

both thespian talent and surprising skill at vocal impersonation.

In cinematic works of whimsy like *Little Voice*, the director is forced to balance fantasy and reality in such a way that the audience suspends disbelief just long enough for the narrative to win them over. But disbelief must be willingly surrendered, and not everyone can be expected to go along with Mark Herbert's plan. The difficulty with *Little Voice*'s premise is that once you figure out the set-up, there is nowhere to go. L.V. will succeed or she won't; she'll go along with Ray Say's plan or she'll opt out. Within this narrowly circumscribed box, the success of the film depends upon the playing. As Hamlet puts it, "the play's the thing" that will catch the conscience of the king. Whether you're caught or not, all the players deliver superlative performances, and *Little Voice* stands as a tasty morsel in this year's Yuletide banquet of cinematic treats. ▼

Little Voice opens Friday, December 4 at the Embarcadero Cinema.

Scheie

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three or four things going on at any one time," he said. "Sometimes I take a job because I need a few extra shekels, but I usually wind up getting passionate about it."

Scheie is hoping that his new playwrighting efforts will add to the income stream, especially if theaters in other cities begin to present them. He's trying to be commercial, but it's a struggle for him. He wrote the unproduced comedy *I Married a Homo* as a "trashy play that the bourgeoisie could laugh at, but it ended up so esoteric with a lot of theater jokes."

Bill and Chuck and Scrooge

took a similar course, though he thinks there's enough for even those who aren't in the know. "The play ended up being about the commercialization of theater and of *A Christmas Carol*, which is very ironic since the Dickens story is about the true meaning of Christmas," he said. "And yet what I'm criticizing I'm almost capitalizing on. Here is a play with just three actors, an empty stage, and reference to Christmas in the title. I wanted other theaters to do it and make a lot of money. I was trying to dumb it down, but it just didn't work out that way." ▼

Bill and Chuck and Scrooge will run at the Marsh through Dec. 20. Tickets are \$10-\$15. Call 826-5750.



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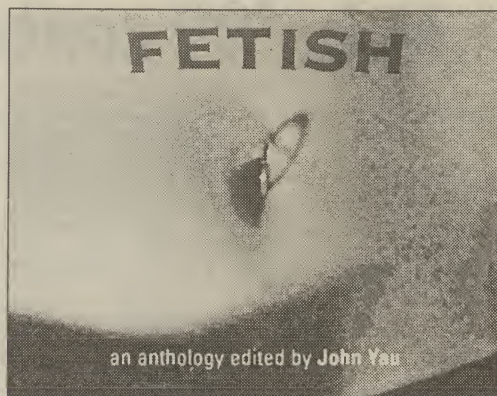
The object of my affection

by Jim Nawrocki

Fetish: An Anthology of Fetish Fiction; John Yau, editor; Four Walls Eight Windows, \$15.95

Like many terms from psychology that have entered our everyday language, the word fetish has come to mean much more than it originally did. Literally, a fetish is a small charm or amulet used in sorcery and magic. Freud and other early psychoanalysts appropriated this concept to describe those situations in which a person's erotic drives become focused on some object or symbol (a shoe, a lock of hair) of that which they cannot obtain. More recently, however, the word seems to have attained a broader meaning. It can refer to an unrequited longing for many things, not just the sexual. And it's sometimes even used to explain away bizarre behavior or personality traits. "Oh, that's just a fetish of his," we might say of an acquaintance's odd habits.

In the introduction to his book *Fetish: An Anthology of Fetish Fiction*, editor John Yau makes the case in favor of the broader interpretations of fetishism. "Fetish was (and is) the idol, the manifestation of the distant and unobtainable and therefore the worshipped," he writes. "It is the sleek new car that someone can never afford..." His list goes on to in-



clude a variety of "desirables." Despite the relatively suggestive nature of the book's cover art (a pierced navel above the unbuttoned fly of a pair of jeans), the contributors to Yau's anthology dwell on more than merely sexual incidents of fetishism.

Yau divides the book into three sections: I-You, I-It, and Us-Them. These divisions establish *Fetish* as a kind of meditation on and examination of the concepts of love, identity and community. The stories in the I-You section deal primarily with off-beat sexual relationships. In Kevin Killian's "Wait Until Dark," a young man tells the tale of his encounters with a randy ex-con who

uses such sexual props as human bones. The section also includes the late Charles Bukowski's "Love for \$17.50," about a man's love affair with a store mannequin, as well as stories about coprophilia and apartment-building voyeurs.

To a certain extent, these stories of sexual peculiarities and obsessions are the kind of thing that casual perusers of *Fetish* in the bookstore might expect.

The I-It section of *Fetish*, however, contains some of the most interesting pieces in the book, helping elevate the collection above the realm of erotica. While there are more than a few treatments of sex and sexuality (such as one that examines necrophilia),

many of the section's stories tackle the philosophical underpinnings of fetishism, the nature of attraction, and even the nature of existence itself. Jessica Hagedorn's "F" for example, is a kind of prose poem, an updated "Song of Myself." Indeed, much of the fiction in this section pushes the boundaries between fiction/nonfiction, prose/poetry, and so on. One of them, Gordon Lish's "The Feet of John Yau," even challenges the concept of fetishism and the idea of an anthology based on the subject. "And one more thing, asshole," writes Lish near the end of his brief argument, "fetish, you looking for a fetish, what's the fetish, where's the fetish[?]"

Revised fairy tale

One of the few traditionally narrative pieces in the I-It section, Janice Eidus' "Snow White and Her Seven Dicks" is a decidedly feminist take on the famous fairy tale, but it seems a little out-of-place here.

In the final section of the collection, which Yau designates Us-Them, the stories are grouped around the theme of the individual and his or her community and family. Some of the pieces, such as Yau's "The Chinese Boy Who Lived Up To His Name" and Paul Bowles' "Pages from Cold Point," deal with the nature of national and cultural identity. Many of the others deal with the development of personal identity in relation to one's family.

Fetish is a curiously conceived anthology, not just because of the inherent strangeness of the subject matter, but because of the breadth of the selections it offers. Many of the writers who contributed to the collection, such as Gordon Lish, Jonathan Lethem, and others, did so at the specific request of the editor. Because of this, one sometimes gets the sense that *Fetish* is a "class project" of sorts, filled with a variety of sly allusions and "inside" jokes.

But Yau does a good job of bringing in an array of other, often neglected voices. In addition to excerpts from such well-known writers as Bukowski and Bowles, Yau presents at least one writer here for the first time, the late A.G. Rizzoli, whose story, "Baker Betterlaugh Today," which was written in 1934, is the first published work by the author. It's also one of the stranger pieces in the collection; as a brief biographical statement points out, Rizzoli showed his work only to friends and relatives, who were often "bewildered" by it.

The beauty of *Fetish* is that it is a little bewildering. It has some predictable elements, but it also packs more than a few surprises. Those who pick it up in the hope of finding titillating erotic tales will find some of that, but also a little more. The book is a challenging, fun and expansive look at a fascinating arena of human psychology. ▼

A half-life Down Under

by Robert Julian

Glove Puppet by Neal Drinnan; St. Martin's Press, \$22.95

The title of Neal Drinnan's first novel, *Glove Puppet*, is a nickname the protagonist, Vaslav, is given at boarding school. Known as the son of a wealthy gay Australian choreographer, the "glove puppet" moniker is slang for someone who is being fist-fucked. This graphic put-down is one of many young Vaslav will endure, starting with his lower-class beginnings as the child of a London prostitute, to the age of 21, where the novel ends. At that point, Vaslav is drinking, drugging, and fucking his way through Paris after his father, Martin Usher, has been murdered in prison. The entire narrative thread of *Glove Puppet* hangs on how and why Martin is eventually murdered, and how Vaslav becomes his son and lover.

Drinnan pens a dark story, full of both sexual longing and frustration. Although there is no shortage of sexual congress in the narrative, it rarely — if ever — brings happiness to anyone. Vaslav begins life as Johnny, a child who watches his mother die of a heroin overdose in a London train station. Martin Usher, who has just lost his own son in a drowning accident, impulsively picks up the newly orphaned seven-year-old Johnny and whisks him from the scene of his mother's death. Martin and Johnny call themselves Shamash and Vas, and strike a bargain in which the young boy from a London council flat returns to Australia and willingly assumes the identity of Shamash's deceased son. Life in Sydney, as

the son of famous and wealthy gay performer, is a world apart from London's mean streets.

Author Drinnan tells the entire story as a recollection penned by Johnny/Vas. And Vas' point of view is that of a jaded, world-weary victim of life in the fast lane. Yet it is quite clear that Vas chooses this life as an act of will; the adults who surround him are as helpless as puppets, no competition for the iron will of a determined young adolescent. And part of Vas' plan is to make the man he comes to love as a father also his lover. As one might expect, this eventuality is their undoing.

Despite its dark tone, *Glove Puppet* is compelling in the way it



seduces the reader into the skewed logic of its protagonist. The sexual relationship between Shamash and Vas is made to seem both inevitable, and strangely natural. Although not quite incest, it is pedophilia, and the world within the novel cannot be expected to be

as understanding as the reader. The author's insight into the awakening sexuality of young Vas, and his guided tour of Sydney's gay scene make for interesting reading — and the lure of baths and back-room bars is palpable. Those who seek a dark half-life, led Down Under, will find the rewards of *Glove Puppet* irresistible. ▼

Broomfield

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well-suited to his subjects. There's no way for a director to make a documentary about Heidi Fleiss without being accused of sleaze-mongering, so instead of worrying about his reputation and holding back, Broomfield digs right into the down and dirty of Fleiss' story. He cruises Hollywood Boulevard asking prostitutes about Fleiss and then takes them back to cheap hotel rooms for interviews. During one interview he zooms in so close on the greasy face of Ivan Nagy, Fleiss' creepy boyfriend, that you can almost smell the stale cigar smoke and Aqua Velva. And yet when he finally interviews the surprisingly honest and likable Fleiss at the end of the film, Broomfield is respectful and even sympathetic.

Considering Broomfield's affinity for the stories of transgressive women (besides the Fleiss and Wuornos films, the director also made the 1997 dominatrix documentary *Fetishes*), it was only a matter of time before he took on Hole frontwoman Courtney Love.

For 1998's *Kurt and Courtney*, Broomfield played amateur detective in an attempt to uncover the "real story" behind the death of Love's husband, Nirvana singer Kurt Cobain. After traveling to Seattle and interviewing scores of junkies and borderline psychotics, all Broomfield managed to dig up was a rumor about Love having Cobain murdered, a ludicrous charge that he nonetheless felt compelled to spend the rest of the film investigating. Like all of the director's recent films, *Kurt and Courtney* is full of scandal and controversy. The only thing it lacks is any kind of real story other than Broomfield's desperate, hapless search for one.

After his floundering on *Kurt and Courtney*, it's a fair guess that Broomfield has exhausted the creative possibilities of the tabloid documentary. As he did a decade ago, it may be time for Broomfield to reinvent himself as a filmmaker once again. ▼

The Nick Broomfield retrospective runs December 4-9 at the Roxie Theater. Call 863-1087.

'Unmade Beds'

◀ page 45

ing Italian parents is directed at gay people. He rails against women who hang around "effeminate homosexual men," apparently unaware that it isn't gay men who are preventing him from finding a mate but the same society that, like him, reviles gay men.

An equally self-deluded character is 28-year-old Aimee, 225 pounds and not attractive by conventional standards. She tries to maintain a sense of humor about being chased by fetishists — "It's embarrassing... I was dumped by a submissive!" — but it's impossi-

ble to reconcile her extended crying jags with her claim that she's "okay" with being overweight in a culture that has obviously marginalized her for it. There's also a queer undercurrent running through her story; her high school boyfriend turned out to be gay, and her dream is to get married and settle down not in the suburbs, but on Fire Island.

Extra cheese

In some ways the most disturbing of this group is Mikey Russo, a self-styled martyr in the singles scene. This fading Lothario is in his mid-fifties and is terrified at his increasing inability to score. He lies about his job and furnish-

es his apartment with cheesy sex images that say to women who come there, "If you're not here to fuck, leave." He has a religious devotion to his beeper, which he uses to sneak out of dates with women he decries as "mutts."

The last of these casualties, Brenda Monte, also laments the onset of age as if it were a disease, but without Mikey's rampant self-pity. Brenda simply wants a man who will give her money without expecting anything in return beyond her sparkling, bawdy chatter. ("I don't need dick... I need cash.") She's the funniest of this lot, explaining with gusto her kleptomania, the number of guys who expose themselves to her

("two or three a week"), and her dog's tumor. The film gets endless comic mileage out of shots of this dog waiting patiently for his mistress to find her patron.

Unmade Beds shows its victims — that's surely what they are — primarily alone. The women are seen talking occasionally to a friend, but the men appear to have no one else in their lives. The straight community's much-vaunted ideal of family and community, which as gay people we're supposed to emulate and aspire to, seems to have left these four behind. ▼

Unmade Beds opens in the Bay Area on Friday, Dec. 4.

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Judges:

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DADDY PHILIP TURNER
IML '92 - LENNY BROBERG
IML '88 - MICHAEL PEREYRA
SHAN CARR

Entertainment:

VIKKI SHEPARD

* * * * *

For more information:

Call Bob at River Business - 707.869.3400
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Judges named for I.M.L. '99 contest

by Mister Marcus

My exclusive scoop for the week is the announcement of the judges who will select the next International Mr. Leather '99 in Chicago next Memorial Day weekend. Nine individuals have been invited to undertake — and have accepted — the awesome task of picking the man to succeed Tony Mills.

Mills himself, of course, will be one of the judges, along with Thom Dombkowski, the Chief Judge. As judge emeritus, I'm happy to join with former IML Spencer Bergstedt of Seattle, Fred Katz of NYC, Rev. Troy Perry of Los Angeles, Don Bastian of Calgary, Canada, Tom Stice of Atlanta, and San Francisco's own Graylin Thornton.

As regular readers of this column may have noticed, the roster of hopefuls for the Int'l. Mr. Leather '99 title grows each week, with new contenders emerging from contests at the bar, city, region and state levels.

But at least one thing now is definite: the lineup of judges. If there are any changes to the above roster, you will be the first to know.

Catching up

It hasn't exactly been dullsville here in Faghdad. The four benefits for Project Open Hand, hosted by André English and Lance Brittain at Daddy's during November, garnered a whopping \$2,093 — and POH Director Tom Nolan was mighty happy to get it! Also, the benefit for the Leather Archives and Museum, hosted by The 15 Association and the Janus Society, reaped a total of \$4,100 for that worthy effort.

Thanks to the many volunteers and business owners who donated raffle items, and to all of you who supported the efforts by leather people here in SF.

Last Saturday, November 21, the award-winning Golden Gate Guards MC celebrated their 12th anniversary at the Eagle, with a



Handsome Dean Ross was named Mr. Ottawa-Hull Leather '98 in Ottawa two weekends ago and will compete for the Int'l. Mr. Leather title in May.

very healthy turnout for the occasion. As is the custom at these events, the new officers were presented, with Chris Kanda taking over as president, Andy Rose (immediate past president) as VP, A.L. Allen as Recording Secretary, Jack Goodall as Corresponding Secretary, Sam Medrano as Treasurer, and John Trubina as Road Captain. The club is already at work on the 1999 Golden Dildeaux

Awards. Have you been sleazy enough to get nominated for your indiscretions during the past year?

Last year, volunteers for the AIDS Emergency Fund donated time working at Borders Books (400 Post St.) as gift wrappers, thereby raising \$6,300 for the AEF. This year, Borders has invit-

ed the volunteers back. If you want to wrap books during this holiday shopping season, thereby benefiting the AEF, please immediately contact Clark Sealy (558-6985) or David Slocombe (775-9145). You should be available to work a 4-hour shift between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays.

On Sunday, November 22, the GDIs staged their newly-revived Butch Brunch, and also the first Mr. GDI Leather contest. All the details were not given to me, but the first candidate for Mr. SF Leather 1999 was chosen on that day. He's Mike Floyd, and certainly he epitomizes a leather title holder: active, tall, good-looking, a biker, and very much into the lifestyle. Mike will compete for San Francisco's highest-ranking leather title on March 12th. The competition is looking good.

This past Saturday night, November 28, Seattle Men in Leather staged their 10th annual Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boy contests at the sparkling new Cuff Completed. At my deadline, I didn't have all the details but outgoing SLD Jeff Henness passed his sash to one Jacob Brower. The Daddy's Boy for 1999 is Carl Buzzard. Photos are on the way, so stay tuned. Thanks Jeff for a flawless year with the title!

Ready, set, dish!

Last Saturday night, November 28, the DC-Eagle staged its Mr. DC Eagle Leather '98 contest, one of the events in its 27th anniversary weekend. A big crowd was on hand for the festivities. Not all the details were available at my deadline, but the new Mr. DC Eagle is Glen Mlaker, a 31-year old member of the Centaur MC, described as a tall, good-looking blonde. The first runner-up was Brian Middleton of Richmond, VA, 38, also described as a stunning looking man. The second runner-up was David Bernard of Washington, DC, age 35. The outgoing Mr.

next page ►



Salvatore Perrone (standing) is Mr. Upstate NY '98, chosen in Utica, NY. Michael Barcellos is the Upstate NY Leather Boy. Perrone competes at I.M.L. and Barcellos competes for American Leather Boy at ABW in Wash, D.C. in April.

Glitter and be gay

by Sweet Lips

While you are reading these words, dear readers, I will be resting my old, tired carcass in beautiful, sunny Puerto Vallarta, South of the Border. Bet you didn't know ventriloquism was one of my many talents. But, as usual, I have the hottest scoops about what's going on around town — even when I'm far from town myself.

News Flash #1: The next Closet Ball of Robert Michael Productions will be under the director of Emperor Steve Rusher and the ever-personable Stern — so it should be a helluva well-put-together show, and a profitable one. Watch this space for further details.

Cleaning out your vanity, dearies? The Hob Nob Lounge at 700 Geary St. will be having a jewelry & Watch Auction on Sunday, December 6, 2 p.m. till everything's gone, and they're requesting donations of jewels and timepieces fit for a royal court! That means rings, buckles, baubles, and bejeweled slippers; bangles, beads,

and bracelets; tiaras, necklaces, and anklets; earrings, pins, and cufflinks; silver and gold; precious and semi-precious stones; wrist and pocket watches; even costume jewelry, sweeties. If it glitters, it belongs in this auction! All proceeds will go to AIDS Food Bank/Project Open Hand. For more information, call 771-9866.

Look out! The grand opening of Kimo's hottest new dance club, "Star 69," will be on Sunday, Dec. 13, opening at 9:30 p.m. DJs will include Lamb Chop, Matthew Baker, and Charles, all put together by

Tyler. As always, Kimo's still offers the best old-school drag fare in town on Friday and Saturday nights, with two different shows.

Don't forget the fabulous 49ers games at the Rendezvous — they're lots of fun, lots of food, and lots of watchin' that pigskin disappear under heaps of hunky he-men with David Kapp and L. James.

Spirit of '76

Remember, pumpkins, there are two words in the English language that are not used nearly enough — and they're not "Suck this." So a big Thank You to all of the wonderful people who came to my big 76th birthday party last

Sunday at the Rendezvous. The crowd made me feel like a historical treasure — which, after all, I am. It was especially nice to see Steve from Portland, in town for the weekend after his two-month trip to Europe and Africa. He

was joined for part of it by my estimable publisher, Bob Ross.

There are certainly lots of festivities coming up for the holiday season — I'll let you know all about them just as soon as I shake the sand out of my thong and head on back to the fabulous Gay Area. Until next column, luv and kisses from your tight auntie Sweet Lips. ▼

Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

DC Eagle, Wayne Nesbitt, was not present due to the death of his father earlier in the week, so his stepping down speech was read to the audience by Vern Stewart. Photos are on the way. The fact that the sash-maker didn't deliver the sash, nor show up for the judging, didn't hamper the event. He shall remain nameless, but tsk tsk tsk!

Also last Saturday night, Gary Aldrich and Kevin Tyrell, co-creators of the leather anthem "One Common Heartbeat," sent out an e-mail message inviting everyone to attend the recording of the vocal/choral section of the piece taking place at 1300 on Saturday, December 5 at Cotton Hill Studios

in Albany. I sent out the notice to as many people as I could, and the reaction was not pretty at all. Foreign leather people are not happy with the anthem, and at a recent Upstate New York leather contest, the only anthem played was the Canadian national anthem, "Oh Canada."

Rather than go into all the sordid details (you never know how the Bald Buddha Nut from Nutley, NJ will react), one well-known leather personality summed it up with this one liner: "One Common Heartbeat" has turned into "One Common Headache". There seems to be no end to this controversy. Some people like it, some people do not like it. It's as simple as that. Next Week: The complete dish on "Extreme Rudeness at the Mr. Pittsburgh Leather Contest." ▼



Michael Floyd is Mr. GDI Leather, first candidate for Mr. SF Leather on March 12. He won the title at the GDIs Butch Brunch on Nov. 22.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, December 3

Final Big Basket contest of the year @ The Edge, around 2100 tonight, with Danny Williams emceeing, the Old Bag, Eric Weinman, and the biggest baskets in the Disastro.

Masters & slaves Together (MASt) social gathering upstairs at the Lone Star, at 1930. Discussion topic: "Taking D/S Out of the Playroom Into Daily Life"

Saturday, December 5

Forum of SF Holiday Party by invite or club overlay at the Powerhouse, from 1800-2100, always a big gathering of club folks & friends.

Omar Moseley and Don "Ho" Tse host their annual "Chains" party at that infamous 407 Sanchez chateau. Benefits ABC. It's a \$10 donation, and if you don't have the \$10, don't even try!

At the Bolt Bar in Sacramento, the 1999 Bare Chest Calendar guys will be autographing and selling the calendar to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Up at the RushRiv, they're having a Queer White Trash party at River Business, all thanks to a certain Los Angeles writer recently relocated to SF to work for one of the local rags! That publication should force new writers to take a Northern California "sensitivity" course before it starts publishing offensive "artsy" and "cutsey" items.

Sunday, December 6

Third Annual Holiday Leather Brunch @ Harvey's, from 1100-1500, with a \$20 tariff to benefit ABC. Tix available now at Harvey's, but not at the door. Silent auction, entertainment, dishing, gnashing, and much fag frivolity.

Wednesday, December 9

Final Golden Shower Buddies party of the year at 933 Harrison. Hip boots suggested. Let it flow! Need info? Dial 863-HEAD.

Saturday, December 12

Mr. Russian River Leather '98-99 will be chosen up in Guerneville tonight at River Business Bar. At my deadline, three men were vying, but there could be more. Who will be the first to represent the River @ IML in May?

Weekend December 11-13

Orlando, Florida takes the spotlight this weekend with the 9th Anniversary of the Full Moon Saloon, certainly a leather bastion in the area. Bob Graves is importing 150 feet of dangling meat (porn video actors) featuring Chase Hunter and lots of fun and surprises. Congratulations!

On the other side of the battle lines in Orlando, Spencer Osborne presents the Mr. Florida Leatherman & Leather Boy competitions @ Parliament House. The boy competes at American Brotherhood in Washington, D.C. in April, and the leatherman at Int'l. Mr. Leather in May. Good luck to all the contestants!

Saturday, December 12

Bare Chest Calendar '99 guys will be autographing and selling the calendar at the Pendulum this afternoon. Get yours now and send it to your friends in the "provinces".

Sunday, December 13

Glennon Sutter offers up a huge X-mas tree complete with leather-oriented decorations, 4,000 lights, leather pride flag drape to be auctioned off by Lenny Broberg to benefit the AEF. Don't miss this one! Bare Chest Calendar guys autographing and selling the '99 calendar at the Powerhouse tonight. Get yours now!

If you're in Los Angeles, join the Black & Tans for their beer/soda bust at the Gauntlet II for the toast to the season party.

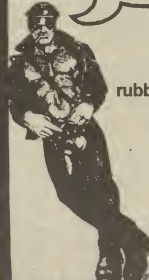
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PARTING GLANCES

Geary/Fillmore Tues. 10/20
You: Cute guy yellow tank, shorts, and smooth muscled legs. Me: Black guy at #22 stop. We smiled twice. Too shy to talk to you. You're sweet, let's meet! ☎ 4800

Frustrated Crowded Muni
Saw you, dark & handsome, major eye contact. Me, tall blonde. Couldn't get to the underground train. Grrrr. 10/13 Let's connect. ☎ 4801

You're From San Jose
You're a draftsman/African American named Keith. Went you at the Lone Star and promised I'd call, but lost your number. Me, big Latino guy. ☎ 4802

Dane - Where are You?
After Dore Alley Fair, Burger King, Quick kiss at #31 bus stop. Can't forget you. What can I find you? Eagle? Taco Bell? You can find me. Please, do. Russell. ☎ 4803

Blow Buddies Sat 10/17 Early
You: White shorts, no shirt, cap. Me: Black shirt jeans. Got you off, would like to again. No strings. ☎ 4804

Victor: Labor Day Weekend @RRR
Made a date @ pool after T-shirt auction to Fife Dance. I waited, but never saw U. Want to see you again & talk. Call ☎cott. ☎ 4805

Ray Handsome & Sweet
Sunday afternoon 2/28. Badlands. You took my hand, I'd like to talk. The Cowboy. ☎ 4806

Embarco Y Lock RM Sun 10/18
2pm take my I hope you were coming on to me & that you read BAR Talk. Don't give up. Call. Let's get together. ☎ 4807

You - Red Hunky Left - Castro St
We exchanged glances walking down Castro St but we were both with groups & couldn't stop to pursue. Those big hairy arms were would feel great inside my hungry hole. ☎ 4900

Hey! Mr. Morning Fed Ex Man
Next time - ☎ say ahille - You're Hot!! Apt 304 ☎ 4901

Desert endurance Ad #3933
To late to call - Ad sounds interesting visiting Palm Springs for thanks giving. Again in Feb. I'm 5'8", 150 Br/bn, 40yrs, 9yrs, loves to give head. ☎ 4902

Drew At Taqueria
I would like very much to talk about your documentary and our comfort level of being lazy. Garry. ☎ 4903

Steve: Firewood Sat Oct 24
We talked thru dinner, but never exchanged phone #s. Let's get together for another dinner etc. Jack. ☎ 4904

Costco Priceclub Columbus Day
Morning took paste away. You a B! affectionate dresser. We exchanged meaningful glances. Hoping we can exchange more. ☎ 4905

Crazy For You.....
You: gorgeous redhead, great smile, cute body, moving to Las Vegas. Me: Black hair, brown eyes, same H/W. You're the one! Got to have you. Call anytime. ☎ 4906

Tyler W/Back Tattoo
Magnitude/Folsom ☎21. fair. Looked for you at Hell Ball. Let's meet. Rick. ☎ 4907

Thomas Duboce Triangle 10/31
You never came back after leaving to get a key. It would have been great? Try again? ☎ 4908

Koret Center Swimmer
Sat. 11/7. You: green swim suit, left with a friend in his 8W. Was he your boyfriend? We exchanged numerous glances. Call if you are available. ☎ 5000

Mon 11/2 21st Between Douglas & Eureka -
You in pick up truck - me walking small dog, we cruised, you stopped, wish I would have approached, maybe we can try again. ☎ 5001

IEP, BOB, Tues 11/3
I said hello on my way out the door, would like to talk more. You, Kick hair & stache. Me: 8'wn hair & stache. Call if single & interested. ☎ 5002

Craig From L.A.
This is the other Craig from FL. We met @ Pleasuredom on 11/1. Call me! ☎ 5003

Hot & Chunky Halloween
You sat next to the salad bar (a handsome Asian) me a blonde matron. Too shy to give you my #. How about a second chance to meet. ☎ 5004

Stan, Thanks For the Aide Home & returning my Levis.
Would love to speak with you again. Please call. You're so cute! ☎ 5005

Sailor James.....
Met you at Marton's on 10/31. Me: sailor Mike in white polyester chaps. Missed your call. Please call back. I lost your #. ☎ 5006

DH Safeway Thurs 11/4 4ish
You: Blue eyes, way handsome, in car. Me: White T-shirt blk pants, truck. You drove by, looked in RV mirror. I smiled back a few times, got frustrated. Can we meet???? ☎ 5007

Scott: Met @ Daddy's Via AOL
You: Bearded, muscular, leather, powerful smile, beautiful eyes, humorous, smart as a whip. Me: ☎21, bearded, blue eyes, buzz cut, creative, handsome, intelligent. I am madly in love with you. Must take you out to dinner, in Hawaii!!!! ☎ 5008

Dame Edna Sun 10/25
I had a green windbreaker, goatee, dark hair, getting into a cab with my real dad when I saw your handsome bearded smile. Kept looking back, you kept smiling! ☎ 5009

PowerHouse Hunk
10/24 You: Exceptionally handsome man with plaid shirt open to show your beautiful hairy chest. Hearing aids? Near patio door some guy sucked your nipples. After, I whispered "Wish I'd done that". Please call. ☎ 5100

Jeep Cherokee Tk 11/12
12:45pm Me: wild hair Jettsons Honda E.V. You: spate, shades, nice smile, followed me Market over Portola. We waved, you turned left. Wanna ride? ☎ 5101

Where Is Fairfield? Where R U
you # was invalid. I live close to you. Would like to meet. Me: 3yrs 5'11", 145, br/bl. ☎ 5102

Jay The Fireman-Castro 10/31
Pier in Blk/whit came would like to be trapped in your suspenders again. Looked for you in the crowd with no luck. We had great hugs. Single? Available? Coffee? ☎ 5103

Raoul Please Call Again!!!
I responded to your ad, you called me fri. the 13, but my machine cut off before I got your #! Still interested? I am! Please try again-Robb. ☎ 5104

Pacific Heights Thur 11/12 3:30
We saw each other @ doctors office, then followed each other all over Fillmore st., why didn't you follow me into Alta Plaza to join me for a drink? ☎ 5105

Streitlight Records Sat 11/7
You: Dark and handsome in dark jacket and chakals. Me: Plaid jacket, jeans, hat. I've regretted not talking. 2nd chance? ☎ 5106

Joe Seeks Jeff
We met at Worn Out West, Sat 11/7. Lost your #. Please call leave your # again. I like you a lot. ☎ 5107

Seamus, it's Been Awhile...
Come by for a visit - and bring your human with you too! Mary. ☎ 5108

Blue Suit/Blk Hair & Sexy!!!!!!
11/9 4pm. You: Blue suit/Blk hair, sexy! Me: Brown hair/round glasses. We both got off Muni @ Church st., saw you again 11/11 3pm. Walked your way to Page/Steiner. Would like very much to meet you!! ☎ 5109

Teus 11/17 Midnight Sun
You were in the back with a friend. Blonde, goatee & eyes that made me melt. You told me I had a beautiful smile as you left. Please call. ☎ 5200

Neil Friday Night 10/30/98
You touched me in such an incredible sensual way, with passionate rhythm felt few. Too good to let slip away... When I see you again, we will smile. Troy. ☎ 5201

Cute Redhead Towel Records
Mon, 11/23. You: cute red head with short bearded friend. Me: blue cap and eyes, dark beard. I stared, you stared. Wish we exchanged numbers or did more. Please call. ☎ 5202

Russell Duhaime!!!!
You are wonderful, You, top, have beautiful eyes! I'm yours, call me! ☎ 5203

Gold's Gym Monday 11/16
Afternoon. Matching tattered blue towels; steam, sauna. I'm not a member, would enjoy a chance to talk with you again. Rob. ☎ 5204

Big Game Berkeley to SF Bart
You: CAL cap Khaki's, sweater boots. Me: Black jacket sitting @ map. You squating @ door. Exposed your Calvin Kleins then got off Ashby. Please call David. Make me smile. ☎ 5246

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

GWM Seeks Latino
GWM, 40s, 5'7", 150lbs, blond/brown, good-looking, sexy, positive, healthy, in-shape, professional, masculine, seeks Latino for dating, possible LTR. ☎ 4711

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32yo dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, like to go to movies, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel. Looking for GWM between 25-37 for friendship or more. Just call. ☎ 4808

ISO Sailor/Teacher
WMO young 45, 5'7", 150, want to get back into sailing, learn about the Bay, nice guy, many interests, professional, in-shape. You're in-shape, good person, HIV-. Friends first. ☎ 4809

Slender Asian Seeking GWM
Chinese, 5'7", 130#, smooth, straight acting, seeking buffy GWM in San Francisco for safe sex. ☎ 4810

Bearcat Seeks Brn Hair
GWM, 40, 215lb, brn hair, green eyes, noseless, bearded, attractive, not buffed. ☎21, smart, bearded, funny, brn. Husband materials only, no sex-buddies. Leave message. ☎ 4811

Handsome Black Top
37yo Black male with muscular swimmer's build well-endowed, HIV-, ISO, 20-40, fit LTR. White bottom for hot times, possible LTR. You won't be disappointed! ☎ 4812

Cute Asian
I'm 30yrs, 150lbs, HIV-, looking for blond blue eyes, 21 thru30yo. Call me & I will show you the world. I like to travel, gym, sports & dance. ☎ 4813

"Happily Ever After"
Unique, handsome, ☎GWM, 6', 200lbs, 48yo, sexy, multi talented, playful. ☎21, Goodlooking ☎GWM, under 44yo, drk hair a plus! Horny, full of personality. Dating: Gral LTR. Just "Kids at Heart" ☎ 4814

GWM 62 Blond Seeks Playmate
Male needed for theatre, skiing, and traveling. Tired of being alone! Call me. ☎ 4815

Wanted: Hot Top 4 LTR
Hi I'm new to town, 42, 5'9", 190, HIV-, bottom, W. Seeking nice guy who loves to fuck & love. Prefer NS under 40. ☎ 4818

Football Buddy Straight Acting
Masculine NS, GWM, 39, seeks same for watching football working out and dining out and sex and dating, leading to poss. LTR. I'm versatile bottom, you be 25-30. ☎ 4817

Attr Clean-Cut Muscular GAM
34, 5'9", 174#, seeks similar Asian or Latin men for friendship, warm times (i.e., kissing, cuddling) and relationship. ☎ 4818

Italian Guys!
I'm the guy who knows what the Italian male really wants! Let's get together for fun and good times. ☎ 4819

Mulatto Guy
Sexy, intelligent, light-skinned, good-looking, seeking financially secure guy for fun and good times or a relationship. ☎ 4820

Cute Boy & Companion
Seeking dependable, honest trim cute boy. Any age, legal age, who's my o'ral. Me: 53yo, gay, good build, 5'6", very oral, beautiful. Aussalito home. Retired prof., HIV- a must. ☎ 4821

LTR? Noe V. Prof. 45, Brn, Blc,
WMO, 160, smky, HIV-, cut, romantic, average guy, enjoys life, 49ers, cntry music, cat, gardening, travel, home. ISO HIV- uncult partner. H/W, 35-55, mature, independent. Cook, hairy A+. ☎ 4822

Emergency Cockslucking Service
7 days/24hrs we never close! Next time all the guys go off together leaving you alone with your hard-on get it sucked off good! ☎ 4824

ISO African American Skin Buddy
German Art Prof. 50s, active lifestyle, skiing, windsurfing, jogging, hiking, seeks African American male 30-60, with similar interests. ☎21, should be health conscious, free spirit, affectionate, muscular build, humorous and trustworthy! No fens please. ☎ 4909

It Is Still Good To You??
8M top daddy ISO WMO bottom 45+ yrs old with hot tits and ass who enjoys taking it wearing fem denims, pantihose, etc. U 8 c'n-shaven. Men: Uncut 40yrs+ & horny. ☎ 4910

Single Seeking LTR
GWM professional 50, HIV-, top/cockslucker, non-smoker, traditional values, financially independent, cut boner, seeks GWM, 40-63, cut, financially independent for dinner, theatre, travel and sexual explorations. ☎ 4911

Aggressive Asian Men
GWM, 165, 6'2", seeks oriental men to dominate me sexually and orally. I will submit and obey your instructions. I love to suck you anytime. Yours. ☎ 4912

Ebony Seeks Ivory
GBM, 41, 5'10", athletic, fun, romantic, seeks LTR, professional and military, who values humor and physical well being. You like outdoor adventure & indoor intimacy. ☎ 4915

Brown Man Seeks Friends
I'm 42, 6'1" 170lbs, HIV-, beard/mustache. Into music massage gardening. I live in a small cabin in the mountains. Into very hiking, tennis, golf. Looking for GWM for similar. Let's journey together. Not looking for sex buddy. ND, NS, NA. ☎ 4914

Attractive Latino
Very good looking, 33yo, dark hair, br/eyes, goatee 5'7", 150#, professional looking, for GWM, 27-39yo, for friendship or more. I like movies, dinner. Call me. ☎ 4916

Looking For Older HIV+ BM
GWM, bottom, 54, 5'10", 210lbs, HIV+, looking for HIV+ BM to explore the possibilities of a relationship. Interested in concerts, dining out, plays, travel. I live in Oakland. ☎ 4917

Romantic Redhead
Passionate fifties, 210lb, 6', versatile, nice-looking, ☎21, have cultural life, fine dining, hand-in-hand walks, NS, ND, HIV-. 8c in ☎F please. All calls returned. ☎ 4921

Educated Boy/Man for fun & travel
GSMW, 43, 5'11", 185#, seeks GWM 25-40, educated with adventurous attitude and likes to experience fine things in life. ☎21, swimmers body A+ but all calls to receive response. ☎ 4922

Executive Type Male Wanted
32-47ish like dark hair and eyes med to husky build. Me 27 It hair 5'10", 150#, green eyes, (French/German) adventurous, easygoing student, employed, fun, seeking casual dating possible LTR. ☎ 4923

GWM Seeks Thai/Asian Guys
5'11", 200lbs, gr/brown, attractive 31yo, seeking Thai guys for friendship or LTR in ☎21. I would like to learn to speak Thai. UB under 32 speak Thai A+. ☎ 4924

Searching For Mr. Right!
26yo GWM 135#, HIV-, very versatile, blond/blond seeking to start friendship, maybe more, well-adjusted, funny, blun, workaholic goat - soulmate. I won't tie you down or fence you in (you'd bust loose) come over and grove. ☎ 4926

HIV+ Capricorn Top Wanted
Shy, loving, HIV+ bottom built, 36yo, 6ft, 185, blue/brown, seeks funny, blunt, workaholic goat - soulmate. I won't tie you down or fence you in (you'd bust loose) come over and grove. ☎ 4926

New To Town
34yo WMO student, HIV+ 5'9" br/gr, goatee, looking for sincere romantic top between 30-40 many interests. Call to find out. ☎ 5010

Bottom Boys Seeks Top
GWM 6'1", 220, 31, br/bl, handsome & hairy. Looking for hairy Italian or Jewish tops who love to have their crotches worshipped. Call me. ☎ 5011

Would you Mine if I'm Asian
Hawaiian Filipino 30s, 5'5", 152 HIV+, versatile bottom smooth, affectionate, romantic, honest, non smoker. ☎21, seeking a mate, top man in shape, or stocky, 35-55. For romance, nasty hot times, friendship or LTR. I have many interests, call for more. ☎ 5012

Handsome & Fit Latino
Handsome Latino, 50, HIV+, 5'8", 155lbs, with an out doors job, seeks handsome GWM, 30-55, for sharing movies, dining, and romance. ☎21, both outdoorsers sensually. In-terested? Let's talk. ☎ 5013

Cub Seeks HIV+ Daddy Bear
GWM, 5'7", 180#, beard, buzz, bottom, 45, seeks older, husky, hairy, dominant, W/Mex, Dad. Balduzz, cigars, over 200#, A+. Thnx. ☎ 5014

HIV SGLM ISO Masculine Mentor
I'm in my early 30s, seeking somebody who can teach me about life and help me continue my art studies, age and race unimportant. ☎ 5015

SF Bear Dad Sks Yngr Smaller
Me: 50yo, GWM, 6', 250, br/gy, bald, attractive, successful. You: 20-50, avg/hwt, fun, self-sufficient, who attracts NS, ND, HIV-. ☎ 5016

Want A Change
Tired of ☎21, seeking Daddy looking for boy 25-45 to call his own. Dad: mid 50s, 5'10", 160lbs, versatile. Bright eyes, ready smile, stable, well hung A+. ☎ 5017

Seeking Man who has a Zest for Life!
A gentleman, handsome to striking, exciting, caring, confident, adventurous, inquisitive, eloquent, with sense of humor. A genuine student where ISO Dad 30-45 who is aggressive, attractive, loads of fun, & a freak like me. ☎ 5018

Good Looking Boy Next Door
Masculine, ynr, 30s, regular guy. Br/bn, 165#, 5'8", HIV-, seeking dark haired older brother type, 31-41, 5'10"+. Must be masculine, nice guy, good shape, attractive. ☎ 5110

Older for Young Ltn Blk Asian
Attractive 54yo GWM, 6', 180lbs, fit, musc, goatee, blue eyes, playful, versatile, seeks fat younger top who is down to earth, playful and uninhibited for LTR in S. Bay. ☎ 5111

Mexican Milk
Bi WM, 48, clean, discreet, oral wants mexican friends in SF. No drugs, no no reciprocation. My place or T. ☎ 5206

Pussy Boy Pump Masochist
21-32, with decent body, in to verbal abuse, bondage, control, humiliation, sought by GWM 54, 5'7", 145lbs, NS, HIV-, muscular. ☎ 5112

Free massage
GWM, ex-massage therapist, 6', 165lbs, 40, br/bl, offer free massage to tall, wiry, dark-haired gr/a caucasian tops. Let me rub you the right way. ☎ 4823

HIV+ 5'9" 165# Blk
Looking for friendship anyone else would be icing on the cake! I am a down to earth Taurus with a fairly wide range of interests. Capricorn, Virgo, Cancer, A+! ☎ 5113

Latin Seeks Friends Or?
I'm 27, 5'7", 160lbs, muscular, stocky, attractive, busy student. I'm seeking whites or latins over 21 for friendship or poss LTR. ☎ 5115

There's a GBM Out there.....
Someone, who's professional, intelligent, caring, slim, under 40, who's a good listener & enjoyer, who likes more mature GWM for fun, friendship & maybe more. ☎ 4913

Asian Wanted
GWM, 52, 5'8", 175, br/bl, beard, HIV-, seeks relationship with warm, loving, and lusty Asian GM. ☎ 5212

Emotional Intelligence
Late 20s GAM seeks masculine, tall GWM, on an authentic life together. Enjoy projects, home cooking, kinky sex. I'm handsome, outspoken and have an edge - Don't be squeamish!!! ☎ 5116

ISO Masculine Awake Short
Grounded, spirited, intense, sensual, GSMW (5'6", muscular, lean 40s) seeks youthful man committed to physical fitness and inner work: mindfulness, awakened heart. L/A 8M encouraged. ☎ 5117

Mature Black Men
GWM, 45, loves to experience older black men 40-60, for steady relationship. Don't be lonely and disappointed. Love. You won't be horny alone. ☎ 5118

Young Los Gatos Guy
You lived on Mariposa Ct 96-97. We met at Renegades, had breakfast at Iron Skillet. Lost your #. Please call - John. ☎ 5119

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 38, 6'2", 185lbs, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-NEGATIVE, extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 5120

Seeking Meaningful Sex
With a handsome younger sexual romantic sex 18-40yo man who enjoys making love with an able, mature GWM, 7.5, 5'8", 165#. Sincerely only. ☎ 5121

An Affair to Remember
43, HIV+, 6'3", br/bn, 190, 6'2", hairy bottom, mustache, total bottom: You: Hight/wght pr, toman, hairy aa+, 6 1/2" + thick, romantic, passionate, race age unimportant, handsome. Me: Redwood City. You: Honest, sincere, waiting for that special someone. ☎ 5122

GWM Top HIV- 44 ISO Tall Men
Good looking bald professional 6'5" 215#, well hung thick ISO men 5'11" + 30yo+, financially stable, into fine arts, music, esp. ballet. Love to cook, read, swim, 49ers, Sharks, NS/ND. ☎ 5123

Seeking Love
Young and mature GLM seeks 19-30yo, emotionally stable GWM/GBM for relationship. Caring, affectionate, sincere, into dance, music, working out, movies, and the simple things. A sense of humor is a must. NS/TS. ☎ 5124

Obedient Quiet Hole
Little boy dick, pretty hole needs partner for serious bondage and ownership. train and cultivate to your specifications, helpless, raw, exhausted, pleading, honored. Contract? Collateral? Repercussions? Vitamins administered at your whim. ☎ 5125

HIV+ Top Wanted
32, 5'10", 150lbs, Asian seeks a sincere man who is masculine, professional, relationship minded and physically fit. ☎ 5126

Native American Sought
GM, 30, 5'7", 135-40 searching for Native American guy made 25-45, for long term relationship. I love outdoors, biking, exercise, having a good time. Please respond. ☎ 5127

Looking for Older HIV+ BM
GWM bottom, 54, 5'10", 210lbs, HIV+, looking for HIV+ BM to explore the possibilities of a relationship. Interested in concerts, dining out, plays, travel. I live in Oakland. ☎ 5205

Sexbuddy Wanted
GWM, 33, seeks same, 20s-30s, for playful sex and friendship. Me: Sexy, brainy, submissive, slightly kinky. Into film, books, cycling, indulgence. Pale, pretty, skinny boyz especially welcomed. NS please. ☎ 5244

Bottom Looking for Top Boyfriend
GWM, 28, 5'8", 165, looking for LTR. We are both physically fit, masculine and HIV-. NS, ND. Take a chance. ☎ 5207

GWM 46 5'8" 190# Seeks GWM
Under 40 for LTR. I have thin little brown hair w/gray. I am 30-40+ overweight. Tired of just sex. Want sex and love. ☎ 5208

Daddy's Little Freak
GWM 28yo, 5'11" 160#, lean, tight body, tattooed, pierced, flat top, great ass, bone hard where ISO Dad 30-45 who is aggressive, attractive, loads of fun, & a freak like me. ☎ 5209

Butch Bucking Bottom
GWM 48, HIV+, 5'8", 140#, 8" cut, tight and muscular, hairy ass, with equally hungry mouth, looking for hot butch top interested in starting a romantic sensual relationship! ☎ 5210

Handsome Loving Hunky Man
Accom. GWM seeks passionate relationship poss LTR. I'm 6'2", 190#, 42, very muscular, fair, goateed Italian. Fun, sincere, exclusive, family oriented, healthy as a horse HIV+ non-progressor, puppy love to leather, sexually charged for relationship. Seeks similar 35-45yo professional, GWM, grounded, secure, relationship experienced and committed to what makes it work. A man to look me in the heart, so we can die for each other's bodies and live for each other's souls. Facial hair and body builder A+. Good credentials and character a must. Serious only please. Call.... ☎ 5211

Masochist Seeks Asian/Pacific Islander
I'm 31, 5'10", 160#, blonde, muscular, spiritual, unconventional, professional, loyal, submissive (at play). Are you: sincere, herb/arna tolerant, relationship-oriented. under 40? ☎ 5213

Yng Pump/Alternative Boy
Sought by Yuppie 40yo GWM. Looking for someone who likes to party have fun and have sex. But who is not into drugs or drinking. Poss LTR. ☎ 5114

Rubber Boy ISO Leather Man
GM, 5'8", 145#, 38, cut, centered, affectionate, educated, groomed, for handsome GWM/Daddy/masochist/butch/boy into sex, motor, art. ☎ 5214

Inexperienced Musc Blond Bottom
43 good looking have smooth speedo tan line, great ass, seeks romantic, fit, down to earth, musc guy with creative fingers. Would like to break me in slowly and regularly. ☎ 5215

Financially Secure Male Wanted
8y me. I'm educated, good looking, creative, intelligent. Seeking the right guy for fun or a relationship. ☎ 5216

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Spread Eagle Bondage
Tried spread eagle on your bed to write, flex, sweat with slow sensual teasing and eventual milking. Enjoy either/both roles. Hot, safe, fun. Decent body. HIV-. ☎ 4835

Sonoma County Oralist

Loves rimming, giving head, to slender guys, 18-35, like back, let me eat you out for hours! Fantasies, games, dominance also welcome. Daytime only. #4935

19-25 Bi GWM Wanted By Asian

If you are 19-25 yrs bi GWM who likes Asian for friendship, relationship, fun, or more. I'm early 30s Asian-Am. #4936

Sucking Fucking

35, HIV+, bottom, 5'5" 150lbs. ISO open minded top men 25-55 with 7" or more. Any race. Easy Bay. #4937

Ride On My Bushy Moustache

Feel my long tongue up your hot butt. Me: 6', 165#, Brn/blu 38. You: Hot & Ready. #4938

Sit On My Face

Well built top, hung big needs well built WM (20s-30s) with big firm hairy butt to eat and fuck. #4939

Shy GWM Seeks HIV- Neg

Companions for oral sex. No reciprocation necessary. Want trim under 50, masculine white/latino/black men. I am in my 50s. 5'10", 150#. Love classical music, hiking. Let's meet over coffee. #4940

Clamp Lips on Mine, My Cock;

Two ass slips slide over dad's dick, clink, snort, squeeze, drive, talk. Dad 6', 200lb 54, seeks younger smaller submissive boy (smoke, aroma, LTR A+). #4941

Oral Pig Eager To Please

Very good looking oral bottom wants to service you! I'm 34yo, 6', 180lbs, dark hair, green eyes, goatee. You: Any look/built, verbally dominant, enjoy being worshipped. #4942

A-1 Oral Service - Delivered

SF GWM, HIV+, G, handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place, no reciprocation. #4943

I'm Kinda Nervous.....

About this... guys at the gym always stare at me!!!! Looking for a cool young white guy into sucking on a big one. Or sit on it.... #4958

Young & Hung Men Wanted, Etc.

26yo versatile GWM, hairy chest/butt, bfoyes, seen all young and hung men to oral service. (uncut a+). You won't be disapointed. Try me if you like. #5019

Mount my Man Pussy

Big Dick Btm seeks big dick, aggressive, verbal top. I'm 38, 5'10", 165, stache, hairy chest, tight end, I do leather, couples tight bondage, safe. #5020

Small or Slim Men 18-40 Wanted

By 54yo CMT for a free professional Swedish massage, which can be followed by optional erotic Tactis or Tantric massage. Race not an issue. Daytime appts, Haight-Panhandle area. #5021

Who You Gonna Call? Nutbusters!

ADU action. Lkg. for on-going encounter with dude who enjoys kicking back and getting serviced. Great oral sessions for right guy. I'm Bk, masc, 40s. Any race 20-50yrs. #5022

Any Asian Wrestler's?

GWM, 51, 5'10", 170, HIV-, very hairy chest, strong & in-shape, seeks Asian play buddies for all scenes rough & hot. #frugle for top, your fantasy, whatever. Let's play. #5023

Sweet Playful Sexbuddy Sought

GWM, 36, 5'10", 165lbs, handsome, athletic, masculine guy w/open heart and nimble mind seeks similar hot buddy to explore intimacy. We're in shape, nice, creative, eclectic, secure, articulate. Let's connect! #5024

Older Mature Men

I'm a LM, 42, 6', 160lbs and I enjoy being around and orally servicing older, mature men. I also like to kiss and hold. Facial hair, rugged looks A+ - no gay scene, gyms, hang-ups etc. #5025

Let It All Hang Out

Relax, view video's, stroke, and see where it goes from there. Day or evening. HIV+, ND, only "Aroma" encouraged. Enjoy! #5026

Black Up, Brown Down

Penetrating black Topman, 45, seeks a mature, masculine, submissive, 100% Hispanic bottom man. Prefer over 40 with olive skin, dark hair, husky build, moustache. #5027

Generous Slave Wanted

Very good looking Latino, 25, 6', 160#, smooth, great body, ISO line to be a generous slave to service me regularly. No pussy bottoms... It's about ME!!!! #5029

I Fuck Like a Str8 Boy --- But

I'm not! 35yo, 5'10", 150#, trim, hot GWM hung top, seeks masculine, hot GWM/GLM, 20-35, who takes it like a man! #erious only. #5030

Seeking Bottom Boy Toy

Aggressive dominant top, 45yo, 5'10", 175, hairy chest, 8" cut thick, wants hungry verbal bottom stud! Be 18-35 smooth A+, with two hot holes ready to take cock!!!! #5031

Older Black Daddy Wanted

To service my cock on a regular basis. Me: Horny Latino, 45, HIV-, and 8X5". You: Between 50-70, and HIV-. Removable teeth a plus. Your place. #5032

Asian Guys Read This

Looking for hot, horny Asian men under 35 who likes to kick back and get sucked off. Call now. #ame day/night call back. #4932

JackOff Artist, Need a SF Apt????

Love being watched pleasuring yourself? Need to be admired naked? There's a nice little apt. for you across from mine. Great sightlines, but discrete. white, Asian, 20s-40s, check me out!!! #5034

Asian Boys

I will drink your pee. BJ optional no reciprocation needed. #5035

Black Men With Bin Or More

Who want a white fuck toy who will give you what you want. Me: 5'8", 150, hairy, stache, totally submissive for BM. #5028

Men of All Colors Wanted

GWM, mid 40s, bldr, 151#, 6', slim-built, gym-toned, goatee, masculine, and top seeking guys, 21-50 and bottom for adventures and hot times. #5129

Handsome Guy Age 43 8" cut

Seeks other handsome guys hung 8 or more. #5225

Verbal Abusers

Order a smooth trim masculine guy (41yo) to submit to your oral demands. Must be straight acting with a trim waistline 18-40s. Hairy a+. #5130

Bottom Wanted

E. Bay healthy gym going HIV-, sincere bi/dvored man seeking for bottom healthy HIV-, for good time or more, couple is OK. #5131

Hung Guys Wanted!

I'm looking for guys hung 9" or larger for fun and good times, the bigger the better for the greatest times! #5132

Studs Who Like To.....

Kick back, get great head & drop a load, to submit to your oral ASAP. Capable, 12-5am, by hot Italian, 45, 6', 180, goatee & handsome. #5133

I Want Your Naked Dick

GWM, 40, 6', 170, good shape, in town every 2wks. I need a nasty imaginative playmate. I give great head and I'd like your dick inside me for as long as you want. 3-way-party-all night! I'll make you hot-nasty. C'mon and squirt! Oy yeah!!! #5134

UB Hot 18-35 Full of Cum

Cute, masculine, HIV-, WM, 38, 6'1", 190, will keep you at edge for hours, eat clean butt, squirt huge loads! Video, massage, aroma, hot fun. #5135

Tight Bottoms Wanted

Well endowed uncult BM, ISO talented bottoms for frequent get together at your place. You are experienced and like to ride it. Not looking for relationship. Aroma, Black, A+. #5136

Seeking Asian or Latino Tops

Good looking, healthy, fit GWM, 35, seeks similar Asians or Latinos tops for the real thing. Please be responsible, serious & W/S, cum, spit, rants, titplay, also a turn-on. #5137

One Single Stud For You

Me: 32yo, good looking, professional, smooth, sexy, muscular body, intelligent, considerate, loyal, fun, generous, lots of interests, looking to date and have a good time. You: 25-35 #5139

Brought to You by the Letter H!

This happy, healthy, husky, hairy, humorous, definitely hungry, 5'11", 210, is looking for playmates, friendship and maybe more. #5140

69 Sucking Shooting

With handsome, negative, 30s, GWM. Tonight let's suck wildly and loudly, shooting cum together! #5142

Well-Hung Butch Bottom

GWM, 48, 5'8", 140#, HIV+, 8" cut, with tight, hairy butt, seeks butch top for hot times and maybe relationship. #5143

Opposites Attract

Hot young Italian Top seeks hot, in-shape, eager to please bottom with a small dick and tight butt. Any race. #5217

White Boxer Briefs

Muscular guys like getting it on with other dudes who look hot in butt hugging white boxer briefs. #5218

Hot Horny Cockucker GWM

38, HIV-, 180#, 6', 8" cut, seeks to suck on nice uncult men 21-45 with 8" or more. Latins, Europeans, Italians turn me on. Safe. No drugs here ok. #5219

Young Travel Boy

GWM 40, 5'10", 170, masculine, seeks good-looking GWM, 18-25, youthful, likes sex in different locations. LA, #520, Phoenix, West Coast, #521. I pay expenses, you provide the fun. #5028

Thirsty Black Cock Craving

Straight acting, sexy, slutty, smooth & selective Sicilian, 5'8", 150lbs, 30" waist 7X5" cut cock. Shaved balls/ass, bikini tan line. Seeking horse hung black dicks. #5220

Beary Passionate

Seeking sexually refined men under 45 that know how to communicate their needs. I am latino, 38, 2'2", 235, hairy, uncult & mostly bottom. Tall & european encouraged to respond. #5221

Hi my name is Ralph I'm HIV bi

Looking for a bottom male between 18-24 for love and sex. I am a hot and horny top seeking a bottom male or a she male. #5223

This is About U Sucking Me Off

That's what this is about. Me: WM 36, everything in proportion to handsome. Looking for same. LTR desired. #5234

Devoted to Dick?

Do you like to spend hours with a nice big rock strumming your lips & throat? Do you worship dick? Are you hairy, humorous, smart? Call me. #5224

GWM Mid 30s Needs Directing

Can you take me? Can you make me your boy or slave? Are you the authoritative person for me? I'm waiting..... #5226

Straight Masculine Mature WM

My fantasy involves hung cut WM 65+, jacking off inches from my face while I'm on my knees waiting for your hot cock to explode on my face! #5227

My Doctorate in Fellatio

Requires passing oral exam. Well practice makes perfect! Support my higher education by shooting a massive load from my sucking you off so well. You'll want to repeat. #5228

Italian Sks GWM

For hot daytime weekend workouts. Must be 100% bottom, smooth & willing to service this hung stud. #5229

Passionate About Life

Sexy/Spiritual Latin/Asian Bi Sag 5'8" 135#, boyish mid 30s seeking slender fit playful sports 25-40 for movies, walks, dancing, mischief. Redheads A+. #5231

Daddy Seeks Asian

For weekday encounters. I am total top & need to be totally serviced by hot Asian bottom in the day time. #5232

Asian or Latino Wanted For Fun

GWM 43, 140#, HIV-, looking for early morning erotic encounters with GWM or GLM, 25-45. Your place, friendship, fun & casual. Are you an early morning riser? #5233

Ass Eater Here

Gd looking bodybuilder with long probing tongue and big lips available for long rimming sessions with top guys who appreciate a hungry pussyboy and want to verbally abuse him while he sucks your asshole. W/S, cum, spit, rants, titplay, also a turn-on. #5138

Have It His Way!

Surrender control to this handsome hawaiian hunk w/chiseled, smooth muscular body, love to pump your face/butt. Want to get tied up and used enthusiastically? He will make you cum helplessly! #5033

Just Shut-Up And Ride!

WM, 33, 5'10", 200lb, blond/blue, muscle hunk, 48" ch, 33" w, 18" arms, wants good-looking masculine men to pump me or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked-off anytime. #5141

Spanking Fantasies Come True

Light and sensuous to heavier with belt & paddle. Limits respected. Notices welcome. Me: Attract GWM, 48, 6'5", 250lbs, football players build. You: attract GWM (white latin, asian), 18-35, slim/moderate body hair, nice buns. #5222

Handsome Hung Muscular Italian

Seeks guys hung, handsome, in-shape, ready for hot sex top to bottom and very oral open mind open hole. #5235

In Gd Shape Oral Bk Btm

Seeking top to cum kink & round. Avail eve & wk ends. #5236

FETISHES**Slave Training**

Masoch GWM seeks HIV- butch GWM under 38ys for serious slave training, including bondage, T, CBT, flogging, W/S. Master is 6', 210, hairy, 50s, sane, responsible, dom top. #4825

Paddle Me

GWM late 40s, needs his smooth white butt turned red, hand, paddle, strap, 5'8", 170, b/bk, clean shave. #4826

Hole Punch

Young kinky FFT, not into leather scene, seeks experienced but humble bottoms with deep wide holes for punching, stretching and exploring. #afe sex only. Facial hair, speed free A+. #4827

Hot Dick Boy/Slave

Nice shaft mounted on lean hot chassis, quality construction, durable materials, award-winning design. Can't be young enough. Must desire bondage, pain, torture; potential long term ownership following standard break-in period. 48, 6, 180, in-shape, experienced. #4828

Let's Bare Our Soles!

Lifelong attraction to men's barefeet. Crave mutual barefoot kissing, licking, smelling, caressing, toe wrestling, roles, fantasies. J/O. E.B. sensual GWM white ring, 5'9", trim, tan, hairy, HIV-, loves barefoot!!! #4829

Bondage/Discipline

Experienced player, safe, sane, consensual seeks same. 41, 5'11", GWM, good build and looks, drop free. Usually top, but enjoy bottoming when I get the opportunity with the right man. #4854

Erotic Massage/Muscle Worship

Let me admire your muscular body and lick from head to toe while I give you a sensual erotic rub. Body builders and big dick and low hangers A+. #4830

Mountain Needs Servicing

Morning hot piss, dirty asshole, crouch, pitty, you must show me enjoy it with spanking. #onoma Co, only your place, daytime, FLT/relaxation. #4831

Daytime Asshole Eater

Get Your Asshole Eaten By A Pro!!!! #4832

Be My Puppy

I'm looking for a submissive boy under 6' to teach and to be my huskytoy. I'm a cute GWM in 20s. Also into veldapling K-9. #4833

Servicing My Ass Gw Dad 55 5'2"

HIV- need hot ass serviced & ball work by experienced horny men, in exchange I'll suck your cock, real Good! #4834

Ass Licker

If yer young Hot and masculine, my face belongs in yer butt. I'm a 50yo, GWM, muscular and hairy. Love rimming guys. #4944

Tie Me To A Cross

And whip me. Gym-toned, 35yo, 5'10", 165lbs, also into creative and demanding bondage. Be under 45. #4945

Big Guys Who Want To Suck Small Guys

With a nice big dick are invited to sexual safari. Call for reservations. #4946

Penis Envy

WM, 42, small endowment. Sissy bottom seeks W/E. understanding older black male, open to LTR, kink, gang bangs. #4947

ISO Watersports

Senior, Hot & Horny, 170#, 6', 6' 1/2" uncult. Into mutual piss w/any age color weight. Bears A+. #4948

Pit Service

For men who know what they like, want, need, give, receive or mutual. Any age. #4949

Weekday HIV+ JO Group Forming

Looking for men 30-50, who love JO, tit play, showing off, stroking, being naked, watching. I'm 35, tall attractive, natural body, no drugs/gym bods. Let's meet & jack it. #4950

Barefoot Man

I'm 5'11", handsome, masculine, dark hair, goatee, size 11 feet. I'm looking for other men with big feet for mutual licking, smelling foot fantasy and fun. #4951

Flog Guys Wanted

Skinehead PGE dude, bootstomper, seeks flogging freaks, bondage tops, mark me up black & blue. #cat, cholo, dudes in derby jackets and ski-masks. #4952

Joekstraps: Remember your 1st One?

Looking to get together w/other men who collect joekstraps of all types & brands. #4953

Your Feet My Face

Good looking, masculine guy wants to worship you and your feet! Kick back while I make you and your feet feel real good! All welcome, nice feet. #4954

Suck My Ass...

Marathon ass eater needed to service hot 35yo verbally abusive top. Lick my ripe hole for hours! #4955

Brainy & Brawny Daddy Wanted

Me: 6', 170#, brgn, Dad's boy ISO smart dominant, aggressive Daddy. Into leather B&D, fluff to flirt. #5036

Do You Like To Rim Butt?

Haramite hairycheeked uncult top wants your hot tongue in my hole. I've got a great butt and want your face as my rim chair! #5037

Bondage Top

Experienced bondage top, 40, 5'8", 155, attractive, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 25-40, for erotic bondage and play. #age, discreet. #F. Easy bay. #5038

Young Fem Boy Sought

By masculine GWM 39, for role reversal, between 20-25, while or Asian only. You be the master I will obey your order to suck and fuck. No M, WS, #5039

Do You Enjoy A Long Hot Drink?

From a 8 inch uncult top, hot, handsome, in-shape blond top wants to give you a mouth full. #to if you a fun bottom leave a message and description. #5040

White Meat Lover

BM, 40, seeks younger (21-35) white top stud. Cum cram my mouth with your hot dick. Whitewash my face. Verbal A+. #5041

Hot Fuck/Fist Party Guy

Me: 38 GWM 6'10", 165#, br/bl, beard, hairy chest, hung 9", great butt, versatile/mutual. You: Top or versatile with nasty attitude. Days or nights. Hung, hairy are a plus. #5042

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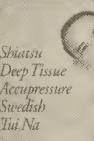


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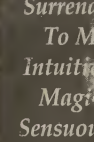
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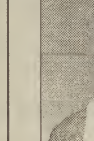
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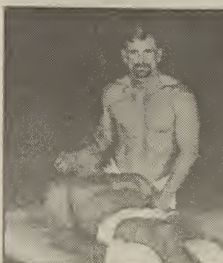
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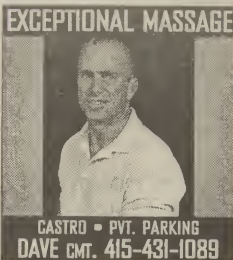
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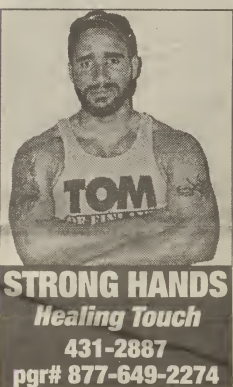


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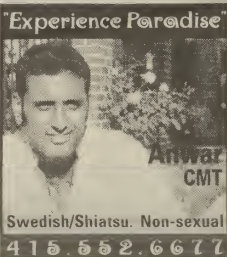
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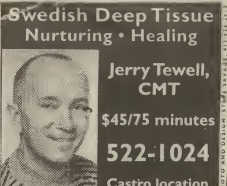
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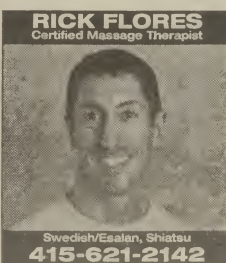
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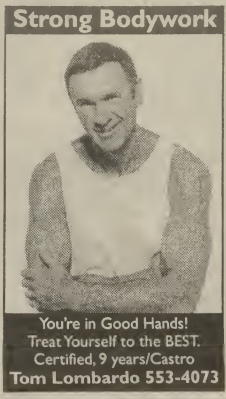
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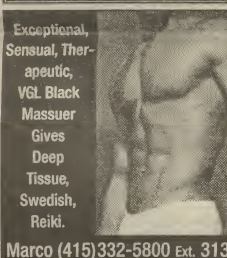
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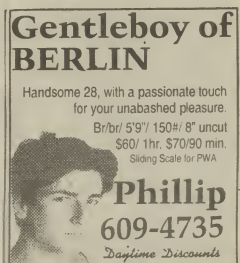
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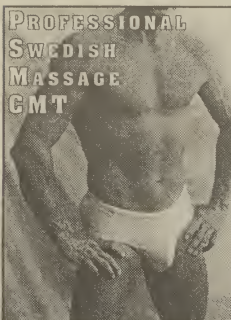
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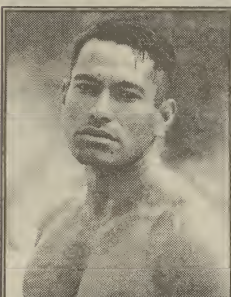
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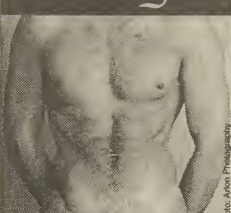


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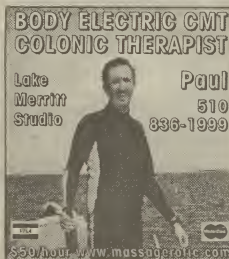
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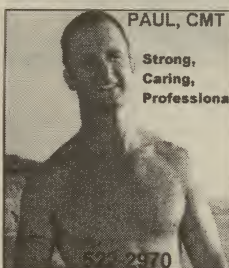
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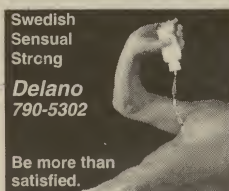
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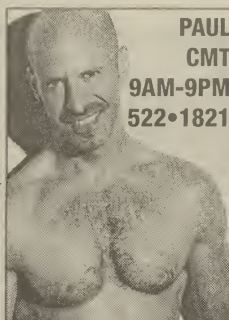


Swedish Sensual Strong

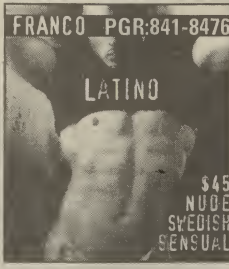
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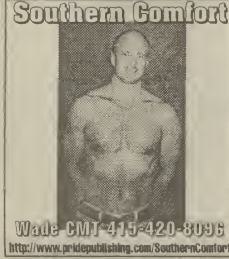
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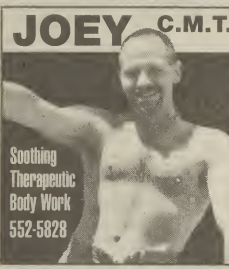
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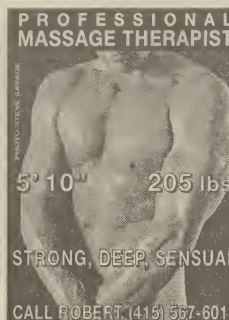
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In/Out \$100 Zach. Pgr 303-7342

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Sound the same??? Well my,
UNCUT THICK 10"
ISTHE REAL THING
Clean-cut, muscular smooth body.
Very Pleasing Personality
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In: \$100 & up, clean-safe apt.
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Within 30 minutes - SF only

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Really Thick 9" tool as stiff as a
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Safe & discreet. page Stephen @
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Cleancut All American, Hot/Hunky
X Thick/Built -Hairy Chest/Stache
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Ready to serve you long n'd deep

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I also kick back. What's your fantasy
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5'10" 160 Very Handsome Bottom
19yrs Deepthroat \$80 out only
Mason Pgr #415-208-0476

HOT BLACK TOOL IN 925

8 Fat Inches To Please
\$80 out only Pager 925-312-1109

Hunk makes you obey on your
knees. Fee. Outcall. 510/466-0466

Dominant Leatherman

39yo,
6'1", 195#,
Brown hair,
flat top,
Blue Eyes,
mustache,
7" Uncut.

Bodage,
SM, WS, CBT,
F/F, Fetish,
Slave Training.

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WELCOME!**

Have equipment and playspace.

Scott (415) 790-0902 IN/OUT
http://www.netcom.com/~puddles/s/scott/index.html

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Hotel Calls Anytime
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8 Inch Cut Total Top 415-337-3022

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Big Pecs Hard Abs 8" C Tool
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GREAT LOAD
Honest 8 1/2" Thick cut tool -W-
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Real Handsome 5'11" Top man Stud
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Totally accurate ad. In/Out \$120
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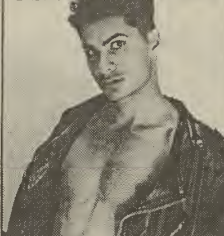
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Man Fun W/Verse Gdly student
24yo Clin Cut Muscles Built
Jim 212-0956 \$120 SF In/Out Day/htg

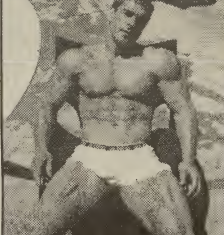
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FEB. 1996



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Smooth Swimmer's Build, 6ft, 8" uncut
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Clean cut & nice body. Very
Friendly. Call 790-0394

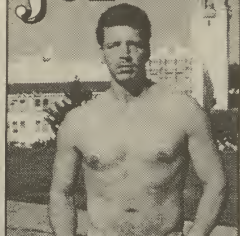
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Matt Converse \$60 Bpr 834-8170

SIZE 12 FEET
21YO 6'2" WM \$60
739-9217 pgr. SF/Out only 24Hrs

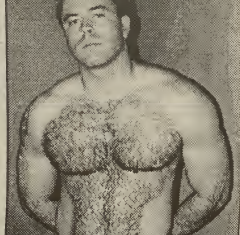
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Will Satisfy any Need 313-9946

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Hot Cute Sexy Fun. Anytime After
3pm \$100. Leo 415-709-0345

Blnd/Blu2 26yr 6' 160lbs 7 1/2" naturly smth
Hairless body very vers out only page
Jayce 605-8095if its boyfun U desire

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621-7363

Muscle Bear

Cory 203-5496
Big Fun!
6.2 235 lbs solid

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Muscular 37 6'4" 200#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Hairy
Hung \$100 SEAN 280-5062

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21yr old boy, swimmer's build
Chiseled face, olive complexion
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Beautiful yummy ass! 150lbs Black
hair, dark brn eyes. Outcalls/Hotels.
Rex 244-0405 Serious, generous,
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Intelligent man w/great body
40YO GWM 6'3" 200LBS
Very Hairy, Nice Butt/Chest/Leg's
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W thick 8x6 shaft, nice bubble butt, 6'
210# b/bm 50c 18a 29w your fantasy
just became reality. From Italy.

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Bodybuilder,
220lbs, 6'1", 52ch, 21"A,
26 years.

New in town from
Paris, France

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Special cravings? Enjoy erotic
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9 X 7 Hot Fantasy Top man - Erik
Extra Thick - 24Hrs 807-7776

EX-MARINE!! 23 YO

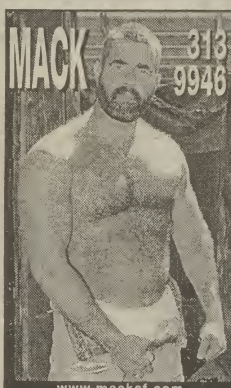
6' 135lbs Blond/Blue and smooth
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FANTASY MUSCLE STUD
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50"CHEST 19"ARMS, 6FT 200LB
OF LEAN ROCK HARD MUSCLE
SUPER HUNG DOMINANT TOP, 25
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Sexy blond jock with w/shbrd abs &
Incredible pecs. 5'9", 155lbs
8 1/2" c tanned masculine, & very
handsome, \$80in/\$100 out.
JASON 864-1190

8" Oral Buddy*Ken*346-4966 \$60



Handsome Hairy-chested
Collegiate Bottom-boy
6'3" 185# \$100

WICKED TICKLE TOP

Hot Rought Merciless. 5'11" 160#
Bondage Fetish Bastinado! Voice
Mail 791-1664. City In/Out

ALWAYS HORNY

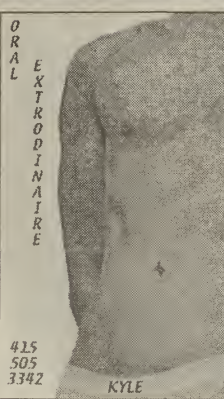
Firey 24 y/o 5'10" 145 7" Hot
looking firm bodied young man
for out calls only. 510-716-5560

SF Escort 415-431-MALES

Greg stripper/Escort 5'9" 145lbs 8"
Jose 5'9" 165 Bl/Br A great Top.
Jay 6' 190 9.5" Br/Br Versital.
Alex 6'1" 185 blond/Blue Beautiful.
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Fetish expert-Uniforms & Leather.
Rick Bodybuilder. Top w/Big tool.

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Firm body easy-going Out only
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TRAVEL, AM/PM/EVES 415-224-6674

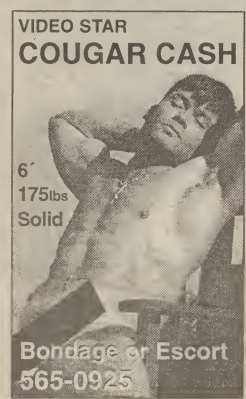
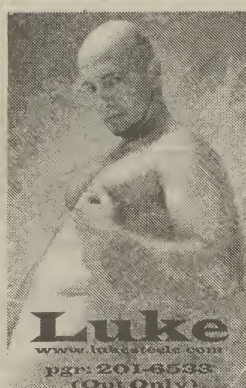
Huge Meat 9.5" Hard & Thick

HUNG YOUNG BOY
Hndsm face lean & smooth 267-6968

LEATHER/SF/FANTASY

39yo top 6'1", 195#, 7" uncut, flattop
Gd. lking. into bondage, S/M, W/S,
F/F, CBT, violet wand, toys, boots.
Beginner? Have playspace & equip.
Scott(415)790-0902PgIn or Out

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5'9" 175 Med hry 27yo Top/Italian
HOT STRAIGHT STUD!!!
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5'8", 160#, Body Builder

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Body Worsip Oral Servicing
Handsome, friendly. Out 207-6696

Two Hot Boys-Have one or both

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE
Tall Dark and Handsome with edge

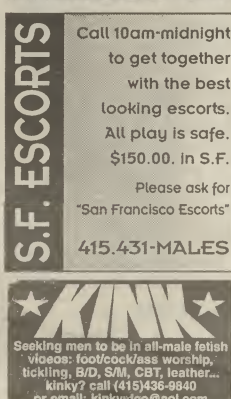
CANON

6'2" 180# / Med Hairy / 9Inches
Sweet and Smooth 20 yr old

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Swim Build 8" Buzz Cut
5'10" 150# out call(510)330-1792

Clean. Good Hands Playful 8" tool
19yo musician-Artist
Smooth & sinewy 5'9" 140# Blk hair
19YO MUSICIAN/ARTIST
Blu Eyes exp. Dom & Fetishes! Best
In town! In/Out \$90-120 974-6083



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23yo Boy Swimmer's Build.
Smooth & toned sexy & Playfull
With Lustfull Energy.
Jean 210-0036

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Blnd/blue boy next door 5'10" 170lbs
Substantial package.Adventurous and modest.
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American Dream Pgr 998-8087



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You must be 18

THE DUNGEON



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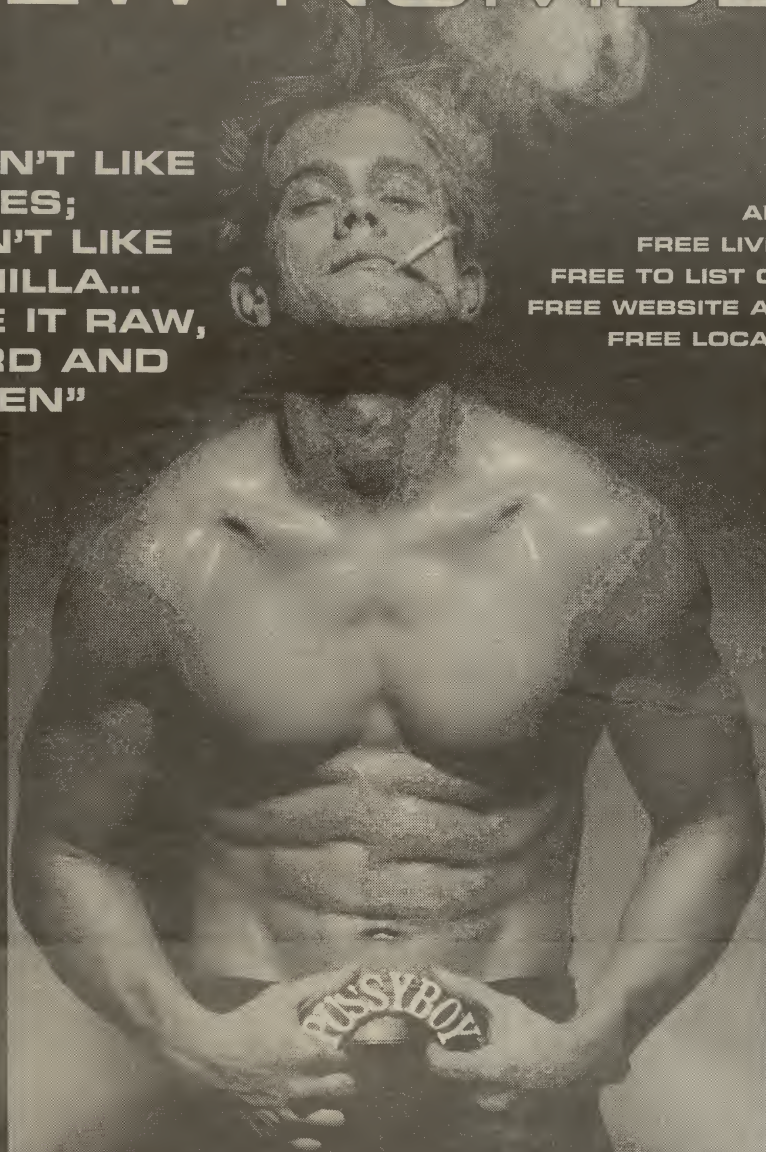
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